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ABSTRACT

This grammar handbook analyzes the rules of the Kiribati language and provides exercises on them. It is divided into 40 lessons. The first part of each lesson is a description of some part of the language, with examples: the second part is made up of oral and written exercises. Answers to the written exercises are provided at the end of the book, as well as appendices containing the old system of higher numbers, numeral classifiers, and an English/Kiribati glossary. (Author/AMH)

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KIRIBATI

(Gilbertese)

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Grammar Handbook

by Stephen Trussel

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1979

KIRIBATI (Gilbertese)

GRAMMAR HANDBOOK

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As this work draws heavily on the past work of others, it is fitting to mention here some of the sources on which I have drawn. Besides the above-mentioned unpublished grammar (Groves, Groves and Jacobs), I was fortunate to have access to the manuscript editions of grammars by Fathers Kerouanton and Durrheimer of the Catholic Mission in Kiribati, generously made available to me while I was there. I have also drawn on Reid Cowell's "Structure of Gilbertese," Sister Oliva's translation of Sabatier's Dictionary, and the dictionary prepared by Hiram Bingham. As mentioned above, I have consulted the lessons prepared by the TTI, and those by the USP, as well as innumerable other sources available in the Kiribati Library and Archives and Pacific Collection of the University of Hawaii.

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STEPHEN TRUSSEL
Honolulu
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Sounds and Spelling 1

a. The vowels 1
b. the nasals 4
c. the consonants 6
EXERCISES 8
d. nasals before other consonants 12
EXERCISES 14

2. Dialects 15

EXERCISES 17

3. Intransitive Sentence Order 18

a. position of additional material 19
EXERCISES 21

4. Transitive Sentence Order 25

EXERCISES 27

5. Interrogatives - Part 1 30

a. yes - no questions 30
b. negative questions 31
c. tag questions 31
d. tiaki 32
EXERCISES 33

6. Interrogatives - Part 2 - Who, Whose 36

a. antai - who 36
b. antena - whose 37
EXERCISES 38

7. Interrogatives - Part 3 - What, How Many 41

a. teraa - what 41
b. raa - what, which 41
c. iraua - how many 42
d. notes on asking 'what' 43
e. notes on asking 'how many' 43
EXERCISES 44

8. Interrogatives - Part 4 - When, Where, Why 47

a. nningai - when 47
b. iia - where 47
c. maiia - from where, whence 47
d. bukin teraa - why 48
EXERCISES 49

INTERROGATIVE REVIEW EXERCISES 51

9. Interrogatives - Part 5 - Question Verbs 53

a. ngaa - to be where 53
b. aera - to do what 53
c. uara - to be how 54
d. nakea - to go where 55
e. kangaa - to do how 55
f. rikea - to pass by where 55
g. iraanna - to do in what way 55
EXERCISES 57

10. Imperatives - Part 1 61

a. basic imperative formation 61
b. negative imperatives 61
c. Imperatives with an(i) 61
d. lengthened vowels 62
EXERCISES 63

11. Imperatives - Part 2 66

1. formed with na 66
    a. first person plural 66
    b. second person 66
    c. negatives with na aki 67
2. with ke 67
3. taiaoka, butiiko 68
4. imperative verbs 68
EXERCISES 69

12. Negatives 73

- 1. aki - not 74
- 2. tuai, tuai men - not yet, never 74
- 3. negative response to questions 74
  - a. aki 74
  - b. tiaki 75
  - c. akea 76
- EXERCISES 77

13. Nouns - Introductory 85

- 1. Nominalization 85
- 2. Possession 85
- 3. Plurality 86
- 4. Gender 86

14. The Article 87

- 1. te 87
- 2. taian(i) 88
- 3. te naa n 89
- 4. Person Articles 89
- EXERCISES 91

15. Pluralization 96

- 1. absence of te 96
- 2. presence of taian(i) 96
- 3. relative pronouns 97
- 4. demonstrative pronouns 97
- 5. Numbers 97
- 6. other quantity words 98
- 7. subject pronouns 98
- 8. objects 98
- 9. taan(i) 98
- EXERCISES 99

16. Numbers - Part 1 - Introductory 103

- 1. -ua 103
- 2. 1-10 103
- 3. 10-100 105
- 4. 100-1000 105
- 5. 1000-1000000 106
- 6. over 1000000 106
- 7. years 107
- 8. how many? 107
- EXERCISES 108

17. Numbers - Part 2 - Classifiers 110

- 1. -man 110
- 2. ira-man 110
- 3. position of numerals 111
  - a. teuana 111
- 4. tabe- 112
  - a. tatabe- 112
- 5. other classifiers 113
  - a. note on teni and wani 113
- EXERCISES 114

18. Numbers - Part 3 -Ordinals 119

- 1. ordinals 119
- 2. used verbally 120
- 3. distributive 120
- 4. fractions 121
- 5. approximation 121
- 6. mathematics 122
- EXERCISES 123

19. Pronouns - Introductory - Summary 126

- 1. emphatic 126
- 2. subject 126
- 3. object 126
- 4. possessive 126
- 5. poss. suffix 126
- 6. relative 127
- 7. demonstrative 127
  - a. relative time 128
  - b. relative place 128
  - c. demonstrative time 128
  - d. demonstrative place 128
- EXERCISES 129

20. Subject Pronouns 130

- EXERCISES 131

21. Emphatic/Independent Pronouns 135

- EXERCISES 136

22. Object Pronouns 140

a. reflexives 146
EXERICISES 151

23. Possession -Part 1 - Independent pronouns 155

EXERCISES 156

24. Possession - Part 2 -Suffixed pronouns 160

1. body parts 160
2. family relationships 160
3. intimate possessions 161
4. states of mind and feelings 161
5. positional relationships 161
6. nouns formed form verbs 162
EXERCISES 164

25. Possession - Part 3 - Genitive 'n' 167

EXERCISES 168

26. Demonstrative Pronouns 171

EXERCISES 172

27. Person Demonstratives 176

a. Neuter demonstratives 177
EXERCISES 178

28. Relative Pronouns 182

a. adjectives 183
b. apposition 183
c. person demonstratives + relatives 183
EXERCISES 184

29. Adjectives 189

EXERCISES 191

30. Adjectives - Part 2 - Comparison 195

a. intensification 195
b. comparison 195
c. superlative 195
d. equality 196
e. summary 197
EXERCISES 198

31. Verbs - General 203

1. Tense 203
2. Agreement 203
3. Interrogative, Adverbial & Adjectival 203
4. Repeated Action 204
5. Passive 204
6. Transitive Formation 204
7. 'To be' 205
8. 'To have' 205
EXERCISES 206

32. Agent Marking 209

EXERCISES 210

33. Reduplication 212

1. Usually 212
2. Continuity 212
3. Adjectives 213
EXERCISES 214

34. Time Expressions - Adverbial 218

1. Demonstrative Time Adverbs 218
2. Adverbial Expressions 219
3. Auxilliaries 219
4. Verbs 219
EXERCISES 220

35. Locative Expressions 223

1. Locative Adverbs 223
2. Prepositions 223
EXERCISES 225

36. Prepositions 228

1. i 228
2. irou- 229
3. mai 229
4. man 230
5. n(i) 230
6. nako/nakon 231
EXERCISES 232

37. Tense / Auxilliaries 239

1. present/past indeterminate 239
2. a - immediate indeterminate 239
3. tabe n - continued action 239
4. nang(i) - immediate future 240
5. na - general future 240
6. a tib'a - immediate past 240
7. a tia n - completed past 240
8. additional auxilliaries 241
EXERCISES 242

38. Conjunctions 246

1. joining noun phrases 246
2. joining sentenial structures 247
    a. two verbs or adjectives 247
    b. second sentence as object of verb 248
    c. two simple sentences 248
EXERCISES 249

39. Conditional Sentences 253

1. if 253
2. since, when 254
3. additional conjunctions 254
EXERCISES 257

40. Compounding 260
EXERCISES 261

Appendix - Higher Numbers - Old System 263

Appendix - Numeral classifiers 264

Answers to Written Exercises 266

English/Kiribati Glossary 277

Index 307

KIRIBATI (Gilbertese)

GRAMMAR HANDBOOK

SOUNDS AND SPELLING

Lesson 1

When studying a language, it is often useful to remember that the writing system is a set of symbols which attempts to represent the sounds of the language which are distinctive - those sounds which indicate changes in meaning.

In practice it is not always easy to come up with a set of symbols which everyone agrees on, and this has been the case with Kiribati, which was first written in the mid-18th century by missionaries translating the Bible.

Since that time, various writing systems have been proposed and used, and while a great deal of regularity has emerged, there is still no complete agreement on how certain sounds should be written.

The spelling system used in this text does not deviate much from those in general use, but it does attempt to make the differences in pronunciation as explicit as possible. (Specifically, this means that you will find many doubled vowels and nasals in this text, where in most other writing you would find only a single form e.g. marooroo/maroro).

On the following pages the sound and spelling system of Kiribati is described in some detail. You are not expected to master all of the intricacies of pronouncing and spelling Kiribati in this one lesson; please consider this lesson as an introduction only. You will probably find yourself referring back to this lesson as you work through the language program.

To examine the sounds of Kiribati, it is convenient to group them into vowels, nasals, and consonants.

1. The Vowels

a aa   e ee   i ii   o oo   u uu

Kiribati vowels may appear as both long and short sounds, and meanings of words will often be distinguished by this difference. As this is not a characteristic of English, some difficulty may be expected in this area.

It is in the representation of vowel length that many of the spelling systems differ. Often, length is not indicated at all, or only in some words. In this text length will be indicated by a doubled letter; it may be thought of as the sound followed by itself.

There is no restriction on vowel combinations; therefore long vowel strings may occur, such as in the word ruoia, a kind of Kiribati national dance. These vowel combinations may also be expected to provide some difficulty.

(Note: The following description of Kiribati sounds should be considered as a reminder rather than as a guide. Actual pronunciation should be learned from a native Kiribati speaker.)

a aa

This is pronounced like the a in father, or the vowel sound of hot, spot, not. While it keeps this pronunciation after b' and m', after b and m it has a sound more like that in cat, bat, or hat.

man	from, animal
maan	long time, animals
m'ata	caterpillar
mata	eye, color
baba	board, fool
b'ab'a	to drown

e ee

This is generally pronounced like the vowel in hate, cane, make.

ben	coconut
been	coconuts
tebe	to jump, dart, bounce up
enga	to be where?
reke	gotten
uee	flower

i ii

This has the sound of the vowel in heap, meet, speak.

ika	fish
iika	fish (plural)
ingaabong	morning
tiku	to stay
riki	to become
aiine	women

o oo

This is like the vowel of hope, coat, smoke.

ota	residue of scraped coconut
oota	light
koro	husking stick
roki	curtain
ongo	to hear
tooro	slaves

u uu

This usually has the sound of the vowel in moon, soup, boot. When it appears immediately before another vowel, it is difficult to distinguish from w.

taku	to say
takuu	curved
uee	flower
bua	lost
ruuruu	cleaning out a shell
um'a	house

2. The Nasals

m mm   m' mm'   n nn   ng ngg

Like the vowels, the nasal sounds may also occur lengthened, which may provide some difficulty for English speakers. This is another area in which spelling systems do not agree, often failing to indicate the additional length. For the most part these sounds are similar to those occurring in English.

m mm

Except when lengthened, this is basically as in English. Unlike the other nasals, it may occur directly before any nasal or consonant sound, providing some combinations which are rare or non-existent in English. (A following a has the vowel sound of hat, cat, rat.)

mate	death
mmanii	thin
mka	rotten
m'baa	to kiss
mronron	round
mte	small, fine
nama	lagoon
koom	comb

m' mm'

This symbol is only used before a, in which case the vowel sound remains like that in hot, top, or mock. (Some systems use the symbol m for both sounds m and m'.)

um'a	house
mm'aane	male
mm'akuri	work
kanimm'a	adhere it
m'ai	cooked

n nn

The n sound is basically that of English. except that it too can be lengthened. It can also occur alone however, as in the word N, (the pronoun "I").

nako	to go
kana	to eat
nnewe	lobster
ntabena	kind of crab
man	from, animal
N	I (before future)
nrairai	exhaustion

ng

Although written with two symbols, ng is also a single sound, quite similar to that appearing in the English word singer (though not the sound in finger).

ngai	I
ngare	to laugh
kangaa	how
ang	wind
eng	yes
ngka	give me
ngenge	a begging look

3. The Consonants

b b' t k r w

The Kiribati consonants may only appear at the beginning or middle of a word, never finally. They never occur adjacent to each other.

The spelling symbols for the consonants are not always good indicators of pronunciation, as quite a bit of variation occurs before different vowels, so some care must be taken to memorize the correct sound/symbol correspondences.

b

This sound is somewhere between the English b and p, and was often spelled with a p in some earlier systems. It is rather like the p in spit. (The sound of a following a is as in cap, hat, back.)

bane	finished
ben	coconut
koobe	coffee
buoka	to help
biri	to run

b' (bw)

Like m' this symbol only appears before a, where it has the effect of retaining the 'hot, stop, lock' sound of a. (Some writing systems don't use a separate symbol for b', using b for both sounds.)

b'aka	to fall
rab'a	thanks
bwe	oar, paddle
bwia	floor
b'aa	rock, oil
mb'aa	to kiss

t

This sound is somewhere between the English t and d, rather like the t in stick. When it occurs before i it is pronounced as an s (so that ti, 'only, we', is pronounced like see). In the Northern dialect it has this s pronunciation before u as well. (see next chapter on dialects.)

toka	to get on
tiku	to stay
matuu	to sleep
tei	to stand
mata	eye, color

k

This is pronounced somewhere between the English g and k, but rather similar to the k in skill.

karea	to throw
bike	beach
kiika	octopus
tiku	to stay
korea	to cut

r

A somewhat difficult sound for English speakers, it is made with a tap of the tongue, and sometimes sounds like a d or dr.

raoiroi	good
rama	outrigger boom
bure	error
ruura	ruler
rao	friend

w

This is usually pronounced similarly to w in English, but is often between w and v. Before e it is always pronounced as a v.

waa	canoe
wetea	to call
kewe	to lie
wii	tooth
rawa	passage

In many cases these exercises illustrate contrasts in pronunciation as well as the simple pronunciation of a symbol. Practice reading the lists both down and across, getting the correct pronunciation from your teacher. After completing the pronunciation drills, practice hearing the contrasts by taking dictation from your teacher with the text closed.

a - aa

man	maan
b'ab'a	b'aab'aa
baba	baabaa
maama	maamaa
b'a	b'aa
kana	kanaa
bana	baana
bao	baao
tan	taan
m'ane	m'aane

b - b'

baba	b'ab'a
baabaa	b'aab'aa
baa	b'aa
bata	b'ata
bai	b'ai
raba	rab'a
baka	b'aka

m - m'

mata	m'ata
mane	m'ane
rama	ram'a
mai	m'ai
maaka	m'aaka

mka	mwenga
mb'aa	mwi
mronron	m'ai
mnaao	m'aane
mrara	moko
taamnei	mm'akuri
maninga	kanimm'a

e - ee

ben	been
beka	beeka
bebe	beebee

i - ii

ika	iika
I	ii
tiku	tiiku
tibu	tiibu

o - oo

ota	oota
rota	roota
bora	boora
koro	kooro
toro	tooro

u - uu

taku	takuu
ruru	ruuruu
bubu	buubuu
bua	buua
tua	tuua

t

toka	katea
taka	roota
tiku	toto
tua	matuu
tei	matie

k

karea	roko
ke	ngkoe
kiika	bike
ko	baka
kuuka	toki
kunea	tiku

r

rama	rawa
rere	bure
riki	taari
roko	baro
rao	Beru
ruura	uraura

w

waa	rawa
wetea	kewe
wii	Rewii
wati	wene

n

nako	konaa	ben
nete	wene	kan
nii	kani	on
noku	bono	un
nuuka	benu	in

n - nn

na	nna
n	nne
karina	karinna
kana	kanna
nete	nnewe

ng

ngare	kangaa	bong
ngea	kangeri	kiing
ngio	manging	ung
ngongo	ongo	tang
ngure	ibengu	eng

nng, ngk

ngai	ngkai
ngkoe	tiringga
riingga	uringga

vowel combinations

ae	ai
mai	m'ai
bai	b'ai
aera	aira
taetae	taitai
tuae	tuai
aea	aia
bua	burae

tou	too
routa	roota
ao	au
mao	m'au
aoraki	auti
tao	tau
aon	karau
aue	uee

uota	ruoia
uaa	waa
aua	aoa
tua	tuae
bue	bwe

uia	wii
meang	aea
keu	ruoia
ia	ie
tai	tia
tia	tie
bia	matie

tei	ririu
nei	ngkoe

Section 2 - Nasals before other consonants

As was mentioned in the preceding section, some nasals before other nasals or consonants require the insertion of i. Some variation exists as to whether the inserted i is written, but in this text it will always be shown.

m m'

This is the only nasal which does not require the insertion of i before other nasals or consonants. (m' is not distinguished from m before nasals or consonants.)

ng

Ng requires the insertion of i when it appears before another nasal (m, m', n), or before any consonant except k. This is the case both internally or at the end of the word before a word starting with m, m', n, b, b', r, t, w.

nang	about to
N nang kiitana Betio.	I'm about to leave Betio.
N nangi nako.	I'm about to go.
kangkang	delicious
tangitang	complaints, crying

n

N requires the insertion of i before the other nasals, and before all the consonants except t and r. (Not before itself: taian nati)

Because of the frequency of occurrence of n as a linking particle or genitive marker, it is often necessary to decide between n and ni, and so the environments for the change should be carefully studied.

rang + n + bati + n + raoiroi
very much good

rangi ni bati n raoiroi = very very good
rangi ni bati ni kukurei = very very happy

rua ni mate	grave (pit of death)
nati n uea	prince (child of king)
nuuka ni bong	midnight (middle of the night)
baba n takataka	copra board (board of copra)
kaain Onotoa	person of Onotoa
kaaini Kiribati	person of Kiribati
kaain Taiti	person of Tahiti
kaaini Buritan	person of Britain
kaain Ruutia	person of Russia
kaaini Wereti	person of Wales
kaain Nauru	person of Nauru
kaaini Maiana	person of Maiana
I konaa n tiku	I can stay
I konaa ni karaoia	I can do it
I kan tiku	I want to stay
I kani karaoia	I want to do it

Insert the i in the following phrases:

um'a n kuuka
tang n ataei
bong n kukurei
burae n moa
oti n tai
kaain Amerika
boki n te reirei
m'ane n kirabu
kaibuke n kamb'ana
tang n kitaa
bong n te namakaina
Aro n Katorika
tabo n mm'akuri
kona n tiku
kan mm'akuri
taan reirei
taan mm'akuri
taian titooa
taian kiika
taian boom

DIALECTS

Lesson 2

(Note to teachers: This lesson is optional. See manual.)

Although little difficulty is encountered in understanding the speakers from all areas there are two main dialects, the Northern and Southern.

The Northern dialect extends from Butaritari/Makin south to Nonouti, and includes Tarawa, the capital island. The southern dialect encompasses the remainder of the group, extending from Tabiteuea south to Arorae.

The principal difference in pronunciation is in the sound of the t when it occurs before u.

In the North, t is pronounced as an s before u, just as it is before i in both areas.

In the South, t is pronounced as a t before u, just as it is before all the vowels except i.

Some differences may also be encountered in the pronunciation of some common words or phrases, such as:

North	South	
ngke	ngkoe	'you'
itua	itiua	'seven'
wanua	waniua	'eight'
na	naba	'also'
kunuu	kuniu	'my skin'

There are also some dialect distinctions between the Kiribati spoken in the Butaritari/Makin area and the rest of the group:

"Standard"	Butaritari/Makin	
antai	nanta	who?
naaka	taakam	you people
nakomai	kuriko/nakomaikoa	come here
teraa	teikara	what?
kawaetatako	kuria waem	hurry up
waekoa	waetoka	quickly
tebaei	teikaei	this thing

'Standard'	Butaritari/Makin	
naakai	taakai	these people
naakekei	taakekea	those people
eng	aeng	yes
enga (e nga)	anga (a nga)	where is?
neiko	neingee	Miss
naewa	nangee	so-and-so
te atama	te nono	gravel
karea	kabakabaka (kabakaa)	throw
te moimoto	te ni	drinking coconut
moi moimoto	kaatoa	drink moimoto
baabarantiko	tokoro	gossip
wirebwerebwe	wi n tokoro	gossip
ngae	buu	satisfied
tekateka	takataka	to sit

Another characteristic difference between the speech of Butaritari/Makin and the rest of the group is in the pronunciation of the article te.

In the North it is pronounced ta before nouns beginning with ka and nga:

ta kai	the stick
ta nga	the fathom
ta ngabingabi	kind of mat
ta katam'a	the cat

LESSON 2

Practice pronouncing the words in the following lists, first with a Northern pronunciation, then with a Southern:

matuu	to sleep
tuai	not yet
itiua	seven
Tuun	June
tua	Law
Turai	July
katuka	leave behind
katua	kind of game
butubutu	to crowd
rotu	dull
tituaraoi	generous
tu	needle
tuka	lower (as a sail)

In addition, if you will be spending time in Butaritari/Makin, it will be useful to study the list of expressions shown in the lesson as special to that area.

INTRANSITIVE SENTENCE ORDER

Lesson 3

In most if not all of the world's languages, word order is one of the basic means for expressing the relationship between the parts of a sentence. Intransitive sentences are those in which there is no direct object of the verb. For example, in the English sentence:

That man	walks.
1	2

In this sentence, the subject phrase 'that man' comes first, followed by a form of the verb 'to walk'. A Kiribati sentence expressing the same idea is:

E	nakonako	teuaarei.
1'	2	1

In Kiribati, the subject phrase teuaarei 'that man' comes at the end of the sentence, after the verb nakonako 'walks', but the verb is preceded by a subject pronoun e 'he, she, it' which "agrees" with the subject. In this case it is the third person singular form. Therefore, if you were to translate this sentence word for word into English, using the same order, it would come out:

He	walks	that man.
1'	2	1

English shows "agreement" between the verb and most third person singular subjects by adding an s to the end of the verb. (Many languages add small forms to verbs to show agreement with subject person and number, but English only does so for the third person singular.) Kiribati does a similar job by putting a subject pronoun in front of the verb. A different pronoun is used for each person and number. (see lesson on subject pronouns.):

I	nakonako	ngai.
I	walk	(me)

Ko	nakonako	ngkoe.
you	walk	(you)

In connected discourse, once the subject has been mentioned it is no longer necessary to repeat it in following sentences:

E nakonako teuaarei.
E turatura.

This is the same as in English, where the pronoun replaces the noun subject which has already been mentioned:

That man is walking.
He is limping.

You may notice that while the English transliteration uses a form of the verb "to be" (is), in Kiribati there is no verb "to be".

E	kangare	neierei
she	(be) funny	that woman

That woman is funny.

Position of additional material

When a sentence contains additional material, such as a phrase following a preposition (to, at, by, with...), the usual position for the subject phrase is still at the end of the sentence:

E	nakonako	nakon	te titooa	teuaarei.
he	walk	to	the store	that man

That man is walking to the store.

While there is some variation in the position of these prepositional phrases in the speech of many Kiribati, you will not go wrong in keeping the subject in this position

When the additional material is a form of time adverb, (today, now, sometimes, this morning...), it generally comes at the end of the sentence, after the subject:

E	na	nakonako	nakon	te titooa	teuaarei	ningaabong.
he	will	walk	to	the store	that man	tomorrow

That man will walk to the store tomorrow.

E	turatura	teuaarei	n te bong aei.
he	limp	that man	today

That man is limping today.

As in the case of the prepositional phrases, you will encounter some variation in the position of time adverbs in the normal speech of most Kiribati. You will find however that keeping the time adverb in final position will virtually always be acceptable and understood.

A. Rearrange the following groups of words into good Gilbertese sentences:

1. Baie matuu e
   Baie sleep he
2. I ngai nakonako
   I me walk
3. Ataei a takaakaro
   children they play
4. Nakon te titooa I
   go to the store I
5. Matuu ti ngaira
   sleep we us
6. Aiine wareware a
   women read they
7. Neierei uaua e
   that woman swim she
8. A tebotebo naakekei
   They wash those men
9. Roko aomata a
   come people they
10. Te unimm'aane motirawa e
    the old man rest he
11. Aoraki e tinau
    sick she my mother
12. Ngai mm'akuri I
    me work I
13. Ataei reirei a
    children study they
14. A am'arake unimm'aane
    they eat old men
15. Te karau e b'aka
    the rain it fall
16. Neierei e tangitang
    that woman she cry
17. Roko a mm'aane
    come they men
18. Tiaon e am'arake
    John he eat
19. Ngaira koroboki ti
    us write we
20. Natiu e mooi
    my child he drink

B. Reform the above sentences without the subject nouns, as if they had already been mentioned.

C. Add the prepositional phrases following each sentence in their proper position:

1.	E roko tamau he come my father	+ mai Bairiki from Bairiki
2.	A tebotebo aiine they bathe women	+ inanon te nei in the pond
3.	E nakonako Tiaon he walk John	+ nakon te titooa to the store
4.	E roko Meeri she come Mary	+ man te auti from the house
5.	A reirei ataei they study children	+ man te boki from the book
6.	E toka Taom he rides Tom	+ iaon te waa on the canoe
7.	E am'arake Meeri she eat Mary	+ inanon te auti in the house
8.	A takaakaro ataei they play children	+ irarikin te kawai next to the road
9.	Ti roko ngaira We come us	+ man te titooa from the store
10.	A tekateka aomata they sit people	+ iaon te waa on the canoe
11.	E takaakaro aomata he play Jim	+ irarikin taari next to the sea
12.	E roko neiei she come this woman	+ mai Betio from Betio
13.	A nako ataei they go children	+ im'aain tawanou before noon
14.	A nakonako nakekei they walk those people	+ i nuukan te kawai in the middle of the road
15.	A tei ataei they stand children	+ i matan te mataroa in front of the door
16.	Ti tekateka ngaira we sit us	+ inanon te auti in the house
17.	Ko takaakaro ngkoe you play you	+ irarikin te titooa next to the store
18.	Kam nakonako ngkamii You go you	+ nakon te kaawa to the village
19.	E tebotebo Tiaon he wash John	+ irarikin te auti next to the house
20.	Ti am'arake ngaira we eat us	+ inanon te auti in the house

D. Choose an appropriate time adverb from the list and insert it into its proper place in the sentence:

n te bong aei	ngkoananoa	ningaabong
today	yesterday	tomorrow

1. E roko te kaibuke
   it comes the ship
2. Ti na nako Betio
   we will go to Betio
3. A a tia n oki aomata
   they already return people
4. E tabe n akawa te mm'aane
   he busy fishing the man
5. E a tia n roko raou
   he already come my friend
6. A kabooa te kariki
   they buy the bread
7. N na nooriko
   I will see you
8. E na b'aka te karau
   it will fall the rain
9. A konaa n tiku ikai raom
   they can stay here your friends
10. E nangi roko te waa
   it about to come the canoe
11. A tabe n takaakaro aiine
   they busy play women
12. A na reirei
   they will study
13. I nooriko i Bairiki
   I see you in Bairiki
14. E na nakon te titooa Reete
   he will go to the store Reete
15. E mate Bauro
   he dead Bauro
16. E anganai kanau tinau
   she give me my food my mother
17. Ti na taninga ngaira
   we will wait us
18. Kam tebotebo i taari
   you bathe in the sea
19. E a tia ni kabooa te raiti
   he already buy the rice
20. Ko na nako
   you will go

E. Written Exercises:

Rearrange the following sets of words into good Gilbertese sentences:

1. E te titcoa nakonako Tiaon nakon
2. Te nii e te auti iaon b'aka
3. E ngkoananoa te kaibuke a tia n roko
4. Aiine tabe e ngkai ni mm'akuri te
5. Man roko Meeri e te auti
6. E te waanikiba roko na ningaabong
7. Ti n te bong aei nako na
8. Ngkoe takaakaro irarikin ko te kawai
9. Kam i taari a tia n tebotebo
10. Aomata a inanon tekateka te auti

TRANSITIVE SENTENCE ORDER

Lesson 4

When the verb of a Kiribati sentence is transitive, that is when there is a word (object) which receives the action of the verb, the object phrase immediately follows the verb:

E korea te reta teuaarei.
he write a letter that man

That man wrote a letter.

A na kabooi taiani kariki aomata.
they will buy some bread the people

The people will buy some bread.

As in intransitive sentences, when a prepositional phrase is included in a transitive sentence, it may come after the object, directly before the subject phrase. Although this position is somewhat optional, and you may hear the prepositional phrase at the end of the sentence, you will always be safe in using it in the position above:

E korea te reta nakon buuna teuaarei.
he write a letter to his wife that man

That man wrote a letter to his wife.

A na kabooi taiani kariki man te titooa aomata.
they will buy some bread from the store people

The people will buy some bread from the store.

When a time adverb is included in transitive sentences, its position is also flexible, but it may always be placed at the end of the sentence as in the intransitive cases:

E korea te reta teuaarei n te bong aei.
he write a letter that man today

That man is writing a letter today.

A na kabooi taiani kariki aomata n te bong aei.
they will buy some bread people today

The people will buy some bread today.

These positions will hold when there are both prepositional phrases and time adverbs in the same sentence, as well as when the object phrase is replaced by a suffixed object pronoun. (see lesson 22 on object pronouns):

E koreia teuaarei n te bong aei.
he write it that man today

That man wrote it today.

A na kabooi man te titooa aomata.
they will buy some from the store the people

The people will buy some from the store.

E koreia nakon buuna teuaarei n te bong aei.
he write it to his wife that man today

That man is writing it to his wife today.

Once again, in actual speech, the position of these phrases is more flexible, and a great deal of variation may be encountered. At this point however it will be useful to master a single correct position, expanding the possibilities as you gain more experience.

A. Put the following groups of words into correct Gilbertese sentences:

1. korea teuaarei e te reta
   write that man he a letter
2. kabooa kariki aomata a na
   buy bread people they will
3. wareka te boki te aiine arei e
   read the book the woman that she
4. e kana te mm'aane te ika
   he eat the man the fish
5. nima te unimm'aane te biia e
   drink the old man the beer he
6. te kaabenta e katea au auti
   the carpenter he build my house
7. katanga te kitaa e neierei
   play the guitar she that woman
8. te mataroa e kauka tamau
   the door he open my father
9. noora te taamnei I
   see the picture I
10. kana ataeinimm'aane te ben a
    eat boys coconut they
11. na te ika ngaira kuukana ti
    will the fish us cook we
12. orea ngkoe na te booro ko
    hit you will the ball you
13. nuutibeeba wareka ngai na N te
    newspaper read me will I the
14. korea arau e neierei
    write my name she that woman
15. anenea te teeinnaiine e anene te
    sing the girl she song the
16. kabooa aomata a te tioka
    buy people they the sugar
17. teuaarei kunea te boom e
    that man find the bomb he
18. tutikeeti e kauka neierei te
    suitcase she open that woman the
19. te ukurere katanga e teuaarei
    the ukelele play he that man
20. noora I te taamnei n te titooa ngai
    see I the picture in the store me

B. Reform the above sentences, omitting the explicit subject.

42

C. Add the prepositional phrases to the corresponding sentences in their proper position:

1.	mairoun tamana from her father	+	e wareka ana reta Meere. she read her letter Mary
2.	irarikin te titooa beside the store	+	a takaakaro ataei akekei. they play children those
3.	man te auti from the house	+	ti nako ngaira. we go us
4.	inanoni marawa in the sea	+	a akawaa te onauti mm'aane. they fish flying fish men
5.	iaon te oo on the wall	+	ti koroi taamnei ngaira. we take pictures us
6.	iaan te kie under the mat	+	e karabaa te booro Bauro. he hide the ball Paul
7.	imarenani Maiana ao Tarawa between Maiana and Tarawa	+	e bwe te kaibuke. he paddles the boat
8.	man te titooa from the store	+	a kabooi kariki aomata. they buy bread people
9.	nakoni buu to my spouse	+	I korea au reta ngai. I write my letter me
10.	imarenan au auti ma te titooa between my house and the store	+	e mate te unimm'aane he died the old man

D. Add an appropriate time adverb from the list to the sentences below in proper positions:

n te bong aei	ningaabong	n te ririki ae e nako
today	tomorrow	last year

1. A na nakon te m'aneaba aomata.
   they will go to the maneaba people
2. A roko Meere ma Bauro mai Betio.
   they come Mary and Paul from Betio
3. Ti noora te taamnei ngaira.
   We see the picture us
4. N na korea te reta ngai.
   I will write the letter me
5. E orea te booro Tim.
   he hit the ball Jim
6. Ti kabooi taiani kariki ngaira man te titooa.
   We buy some bread us from the store
7. E kana te ika teuaarei.
   he eat the fish that man
8. Kam na uota te beeki ngkamii nakon te auti.
   You will bring the pig you to the house
9. I noora te kaibuke ngai i marawa.
   I see the ship me in the sea
10. A nima te biia aiine.
    they drink the beer women

Written

E. Rearrange the following sets of words into good Kiribati sentences:

1. wareka reta ana Meere e

____

2. taiani kariki kabooi ti ngaira

____

3. te booro Tim karabaa e

____

4. ngai I te kaibuke noora

____

5. te kaibuke bue e

____

6. uota te am'arake na kam te auti nakon

____

7. biia nim a aiine

____

8. akawaa mm'aane te onauti a

____

9. taamnei noora ti ngaira te

____

10. te ika teuaarei e kana

____

INTERROGATIVES - PART 1

Lesson 5

There are two basic types of questions in Kiribati, as in English. One, referred to as the 'yes-no' type, simply asks for the listener's perception, understanding or opinion of a given situation, and can basically be answered by 'yes' or 'no', although often other answers are equally appropriate, such as 'maybe', 'I don't know', 'absolutely', 'heck no!', etc.

The other types, called 'WH-questions' after the most common English question words, requests the hearer to supply missing information - the who, what, why, or where of a given situation.

1. Yes-No Questions

In Kiribati, yes-no questions are formed by merely changing the sentence intonation from that of a statement, which ends generally in a falling pattern, to that of a question, which ends on a rising note. Although English changes word order for yes-no question formation, it employs a similar technique as well, so that a statement such as:

John's going to the store.

could be converted into a question by a simple change of intonation:

John's going to the store?

Similarly in Kiribati:

E nakon te titooa Tiaon.
he go to the store John

John's going to the store.

becomes a question:

E nakon te titooa Tiaon?

Is John going to the store?

2. Negative Questions

In response to a question phrased negatively, the English response is based on whether the answer to the question would be positive or negative:

Isn't he going to the store?
(He isn't going to the store?)

No, he isn't
Yes, he is.

In Kiribati however, the response to a negative question is more of a comment on the truth of the question:

E aki nakon te titooa?
he not go to the store?

E eng. (E aki nako.)
it yes (he's not going to the store) = no

To respond positively to a negative question, it would be restated as a positive declaration:

E aki nakon te titooa?

E aki. E nakon te titooa.
it no. he go to the store. = yes

Thus the Kiribati responses to negative questions are in effect the opposite of those expected by an English speaker. (Note: You will run into variation in the use of these responses. Watch your step.)

3. Tag Questions

English also employs a construction referred to as a 'tag question', a statement followed by a little 'tag', asking for verification:

He's going to the store, isn't he?

Kiribati sometimes employs a similar strategy by adding ke, 'or', to the end of a statement:

E nakon te titooa ke?
he go to the store or?

4. Tiaki - no, not

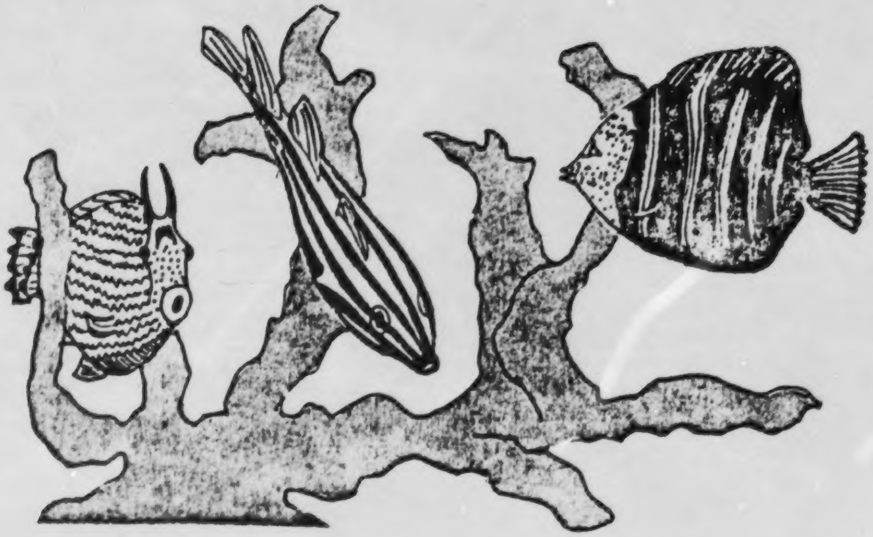
Tiaki ('no, not') at the front of a sentence has about the same effect as ke at the end, meaning in effect, 'isn't it?', 'isn't it so?':

Tiaki te kaabenta ngkoe?
not a carpenter you

Aren't you a carpenter?
You're a carpenter, aren't you?

Tiaki e bon roko te kaibuke?
not it truly come the ship

The ship arrived, didn't it?



A. Form yes-no questions from the following statements:

1. E tikiraoi te aiine aarei.
   she pretty the woman that
2. Ko ataa te kawai.
   you know the way
3. E rangi ni boobuaka te kunnikai.
   it very expensive the clothes
4. A na nako Betio n te bong aei.
   they will go to Betio today
5. Iai te waanikiba n te Moanibong.
   there is a plane on Monday
6. Iai aia kai n tekateka.
   there is their chair
7. E raroa mai ikai.
   it far from here
8. Ti matuu n te auti.
   we sleep in the house
9. E a tia n roko te tia mm'akuri.
   he already come the worker
10. E tangira te koobe.
    he wants coffee
11. N na tuangga.
    I will tell him
12. A uota te boki nakoina.
    they bring the book to him

B. Answer the following questions negatively:

1. E aki nakon te auti?
   he not go to the house
2. A aki tiku ikai?
   they not stay here
3. Ti na aki toka n te b'ati?
   we will not take the bus
4. Ko aki roko mai Betio?
   you not come from Betio
5. Kam aki karaoia?
   you already not do it
6. E aki kabooa te raiti?
   he not buy the rice
7. Ko na aki nako Bairiki?
   you will not go to Bairiki

C. Now give positive responses to the above questions.

D. Form tag questions from the following statements:

1. E a boo teuana.
   it's one o'clock
2. Ko a tia n nakon te bangke.
   you already go to the bank
3. E aoria ngkana e buubura.
   it do nothing if it big
4. A rabakau ni koroboki ni Kiribati.
   they skilled in write in Kiribati.
5. E raoiroi te kaa anne.
   it good the car that
6. Ko mm'akuri n te Kaabong.
   you work Thursdays
7. Ti motirawa n te aoa uoua.
   we rest at two o'clock
8. N na nako ningaabong.
   I will go tomorrow
9. E kukurei ni mm'akuri n te aobiti.
   he happy to work in the office
10. Ko noora te taibora.
    you see the table
11. E a tia n nakon te kai ni b'ati.
    he already go to the bus stop
12. Bon te tia akawa ae e rabakau.
    truly the fisherman who skilled

E. Form yes-no questions or tag questions from the following statements:

1. Bon te koowana ngaia.
governor him
2. Ko nanokaawaki.
sad
3. A na baki taani mm'akuri.
be hungry
4. E tuai ni b'aka.
not yet fall
5. I oroia.
hit it
6. A noora te kaibuke naakekei.
those men
7. E a tia n anaia.
take it
8. N na weteiia.
call them
9. E korea te reta nakoiu.
write to me
10. Ko a tia n am'arake.
eat
11. E rangi ni bati te karau.
rain
12. A mm'akuri n te titooa.
work
13. E tabetabe ngkai.
busy now
14. I riai n nako n te bong aei.
must today
15. Akea te kaeka.
no answer
16. Ko na kaitiaka te auti.
clean
17. E raoiroi riki aio.
better this
18. E rangi ni buubura.
big
19. E a roko te waa.
canoe
20. A ibuobuoka kanaia.
share their meal

INTERROGATIVES - PART 2 - WHO, WHOSE

Lesson 6

WH-Questions

Like English, Kiribati uses a set of question words to get information about a missing element in a sentence. Functionally, some of these act as pronouns, being replaceable by a noun which answers the question, some as adjectives, asking for descriptive information about a specific noun in a sentence, others as adverbs, requesting information about the verb of the sentence, or an entire clause, and still another group which acts as complete interrogative verbs, needing only a subject pronoun to form a complete question.

1. Antai? Who?

Antai, 'who', is used directly before nouns and person demonstratives when asking for identification:

Antai teuaaei?
who this person (masc. sing.)

Antai te tia mm'akuri aanne?
Who the worker that

Who is that workman?

It is used similarly when asking someone's name directly:

Antai aram?
who your name

What's your name?

Antai aran tamam?
who his name your father?

What's your father's name?

When asking who did some action, when there is a verb involved, antai must be followed by an appropriate relative pronoun, such as ae. (see the lesson on relative pronouns):

Antai ae e na nako Tarawa?
who that will go to Tarawa?

Who (is it (sg.) that) will go to Tarawa?

Antai aika a tia ni karaoia?
who that already do it

Who (is it (pl.) that) did it?

Note: In Butaritari/Makin, Nanta is used in place of Antai.

2. Antena? Whose?

Antena, 'whose', can be seen as a contraction of:

antai ana = antena

antai ana b'ai? = antena b'ai?
who his thing whose thing

Whose thing (is this)?

Before nouns which must take the possessive suffixes, ante is used. (see lesson on these suffixes). Compare:

Ante waa-na?
whose canoe (is this)?

Antena matau?
whose fishhook (is this)?

Notes: 1) Before certain sounds, anto may be heard in place of ante:

anto um'ana = ante um'ana
whose house

2) Antai will sometimes be heard before non-animate nouns (this is rather colloquial)

Antai te auti aanne?
who the house that

Whose house is that?

A. Form questions from the following sentences, assuming the underlined word to be missing information.

example: 1. Teuaarei boni Bauro.
that man Paul

Antai teuaarei?

(Note that bon(i) 'truly', is omitted when the question is formed.)

1. Neierei boni Maria.
that woman

2. Bon Iaone te tia reirei aarei.
teacher

3. Te unimm'aane aei bon tamau.
old man my father

4. Bon tinau te aiine aarei.
my mother

5. Kaain au auti bon tamau ao tinau.
people of

6. Aran au kaawa bon Teaoraereke.
village

7. Au tia reirei Titi.

8. Bon Roniti te minita aarei.
minister

9. Te tama aarei bon Ioteba.
father

10. Aran te teei aarei boni Karianako.
child

B. Use Antai ae (singular) or Antai aika (plural), to form questions from the following statements, assuming the underlined word to be missing information, as above:

example: 1. E na nako Tiaon.

Antai ae e na nako?

1. E na nakon te titooa Kaitara.

2. A katea au auti taani mm'akuri.
build workmen

3. A taua te bure bureitiman aikai.
hold criminal these policemen

4. E na roko ningaabong Tiaon.

5. E na kawarai tamau ningaabong.
visit me

6. N na nako Betio n te wiiki ae e na roko.

7. I kauka te mataroa n te biti.
open door knife

8. E a maeka iroun te tia mm'akuri te unimm'aane aarei.
live by

9. A kana te am'arake ataeinimm'aane.
eat food boys

10. Ti matuu n te auti n iruwa.
sleep guest house

C. Use Antena or Ante to form questions based on the following sentences:

1. Bon ana b'aatika Tiaon.
bicycle

2. Boni b'aran Bauro aei.
his hat

3. Ana karewe tamau arei.
toddy

4. Au kunnikai ae e uraura aei.
clothes red

5. Bon am booti aarei.
boat

6. Ana boki Nei Tebora aarei.
book

7. Bon ana b'ai n takaakaro natiu.
toy

8. Bon um'an Tiaon are e uareereke.
his house small

9. Bon ana rebwerebwe tariu aio.
motorcycle my sibling

10. Arei bon ana matiati te unimm'aane.
matches

11. Boni waan tamau aanne.
his canoe

INTERROGATIVES - PART 3 - WHAT, HOW MANY

Lesson 7

---

1. Teraa?, What?

Teraa, 'what', may be used directly before inanimate nouns - that is, nouns which are things, but not people:

Teraa te b'ai aanne?
what the thing that?

What is that thing?

Teraa te rongorongo?
what the news

When questioning an action, before a verb, teraa is used with a relative pronoun:

Teraa ae e karaoia nakoim?
what that he do it to you

What did he do to you?

(This is preferable to a similar construction without the relative pronoun:

*E karaoa teraa nakoim?
he do what to you)

2. Raa?, What, Which?

Raa, 'what, which', is always used following a noun, and can be used with people as well as with things:

Ko tangira te boki raa?
you want the book which

Which book do you want?

Te aomata raa?
the person which

Which person?

When used with the possessive suffixes, raa questions 'what relationship': (The hyphen is only used here for illustration.)

Raa-m teuaanne?
your what that man

What relation is that man to you?

Raa-n te auti?
its what the house

What (which) part of the house?

It can also be translated by 'how':

maan
long (time), duration

maanra?
How long?

When questioning 'what kind of things', baikara is used:

Baikara aika ko tangiri?
what things that you want

What sort of things do you want?

(In this singular, this would be te b'ai teraa or te b'ai raa.)

3. Iraua? How many?

This will be dealt with in more detail in the section on numeral classifiers, for ira-ua takes different numeral classifiers according to the things questioned. The most common use is with the general classifier, -ua:

Iraua am ririki?
how many your years

How old are you?

Ira-man tarim?
how many your same sex siblings

4. Notes on asking 'what?'

Like English and many languages, Kiribati has a number of expressions to use when something wasn't heard, all translating roughly as 'what?':

teraa?	(what)
teraa ae ko taku?	(what which you said)
teraana?	(its what)
teraa am taeka?	(what your words)
e kangaa?	(it how?)
e aera?	(it done how?)

There are probably some more variations on these as well. They are all more or less interchangeable.

5. Notes on asking 'the how-many-th'

While iraua asks the question 'how many?', sometimes it is necessary to ask for 'the how many-th?'. English uses a variety of ways to achieve this. After a race we might ask a runner 'what number did you come in?'. For days of the week, we ask 'what day is today?'. For selecting from a row of objects we might merely ask 'which one?'. Kiribati uses one construction for all of these cases, the question word ira- plus its appropriate classifier, and the ordinal prefix, ka-, meaning roughly '-th'.

Te kairaman ngkoe?
the how many-th you

What number are you?

Te kairabong aei?
the how-many-th day this?

What day is today?

Te kairaua te b'ai aanne?
the how many-th that thing

Which one of the series is that?

(see the lessons on ordinals and classifiers for further information)

INTERROGATIVES - PART 3 - WHAT, HOW MANY EXERCISES

LESSON 7

A. Form questions from the following sentences using teraa, assuming the underlined words to be the missing information:

1. N na teboka te aroka.
   water the plant
2. Aran te bai aei bon te buriki.
   brick
3. Te kaibuke aarei bon 'Teraaka'.
   ship
4. Te man aei bon te kirii.
   animal dog
5. Bon te been te b'ai aarei.
   pen
6. Te b'ai are iaon te kaa bon te kie.
   car mat
7. N na kam'aa te am'arake.
   cook food
8. A na kabooi taiani kariki man te titooa.
   buy some bread
9. Bon te am'arake ae e kam'aia tinau.
   cook it my mother
10. Bon waan tamau te waa aarei.
    my father's canoe

B. Form questions from the following sentences in a similar fashion using raa:

1. I noora te taamnei are n te m'aneaba.
   picture in the maneaba
2. A na toka n te ranti aarei.
   take launch that
3. E tangira te kanre ae e uraura.
   want candy red
4. Ti maeka n te auti ae e buubura.
   live big
5. E kabooi kariki ake a kangkang.
   buy bread delicious
6. N na toka ni waanikiban Nauru.
   plane of Nauru
7. Ti reirei n te reirei are teuana.
   study school one
8. Kam na kaea te meeri are te aoa itiua.
   chase launch seven o'clock
9. E iein ma te aiine ae e unuun.
   marry quarrelsome
10. I kaboonganaa te biti ae e kakang?
    use knife sharp

C. Use raa plus the possessive suffixes to form questions from the following sentences:

1. E uruaki moan au kaa.
broken front
2. M'aaneu Nei Meere.
my opp. sex sibling
3. E karaoa kamaaman ana auti Tom.
make windows
4. E uruaki mataroan te titooa.
door
5. Buun Bauro te aiine aarei.
wife
6. Natin Baie Nei Tebora.
child
7. E m'akoro waen te teei aarei.
cut leg child
8. E in mataroan te auti aarei.
shut door house
9. E bua matan ana tiib'aati.
lost cover teapot
10. A m'akoro nanon waeia naakekei.
cut soles their feet

D. Form questions to which the following sentences are answers using maanra:

1. Aua nam'akaina tikuna i Abemama.
4 months his stay
2. Itiua ana ririki n reirei i Biti.
7 his years study Fiji
3. Abong aia bong ni wene n te oonaoraki.
4 days lie hospital
4. Teuana ana wiiki ni maeka i Bonriki.
1 his week live
5. Nimaua au aoa ngai n teitei n te marae ni waanikiba.
5 my hours stand airfield
6. Uabong am bong ngkoe ni karaoa te reirei aei.
2 days do lesson
7. Onoua aia ririki ni mm'akuri i Nauru.
6 their years work
8. Tebongina au bong ngai ni maraki.
1 day sick
9. I aki maan ngai ni korea au reta.
not long write
10. Uoua au wiiki n tiku i Tarawa.
2 my weeks stay

E. Use Iraua or Iraman to form questions from the following sentences:

1. Iai onoman au beeki n te oo.
   pigs pen
2. Teniua ana ririki Karianako.
   3
3. Tebwina au nam'akaina ikai.
   10
4. Uabwi ma teuana au ririki.
   21
5. Niiman natiu mm'aane.
   5 boy children
6. Bon akea au katam'a.
   none cats
7. Teniman konana iika.
   3 his catch fish
8. Onoua au ririki ni maeka i Tarawa.
   6
9. Uangaun ma temanna au moa.
   21 chickens
10. Itiua au ririki n reirei.
    7

INTERROGATIVES - PART 4 - WHEN, WHERE, WHY

Lesson 8

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1. Nningai? When?

Nningai, 'when' is variable as to its position in the question:

E na roko nningai?
he will come when

Nningai am tai n nako?
when your time of going?

When are you going?

It is sometimes found as nningai raa.

2. Iia? Where?

Sometimes found as iaa or iaa raa, its use is fairly straightforward:

E maeka iia Meeri?
she live where Mary

Where does Mary live?

3. Maiia? From where? Whence?

This can be seen as a contraction of mai + iia, from + where:

A roko maiia?
they come from where?

Where do they come from?

C2

4. Bukin Teraa? Why?

This is usually followed by ngke for the past, and ngkai for the non-past (ngke = when, past; ngkai = now):

Bukin teraa ngkai ko na nako Tarawa?
Why now you will go to Tarawa

Why are you going to Tarawa?

Other forms are found for 'why' as well. Sometimes the form is 'inverted':

Teraa bukin nakom nako Tarawa?
Why your going to Tarawa

Why are you going to Tarawa?

As a one-word interjection, Ao? (and) is often used for 'why?', and also ao teraa?, 'so what,' 'well,' 'what more?'

EXERCISES INTERROGATIVES - PART 4 - WHEN, WHERE, WHY

LESSON 8

A. Form questions from the following sentences, using Nningai:

1. A na roko ningaabong au ataei.
   tomorrow children
2. E roko ngkoananoa te kaibuke.
   yesterday ship
3. N na nako Maiana n te wiiki ae e na roko.
   next week
4. I korea au reta ngke e tairiki.
   wrote last night
5. E na kiba n te ingaabong te waanikiba.
   fly in the morning plane
6. Ti katea te auti aei n te ririki ae e nako.
   built last year
7. E a tiba tia te kootiuei aei.
   just finished causeway
8. E mate tibuu ngkoananoa.
   died my grandparent yesterday
9. I wareka te boki aei ngke I uareereke.
   read when I was little
10. Ti nako Bikenibeu ngke e ingaabong.
   this morning

B. Use Iia to form questions from the following sentences:

1. E akawa Tiaon n te nama.
   fish in the lagoon
2. A tebotebo ataei inanon te rawa.
   bathe in the channel
3. I katuka au kawaerake iaan te baoki.
   put my pants under the box
4. Ti maeka ma au karo n au auti.
   live my parents
5. E mm'akuri Beia n te kaibuke n akawa.
   on the fishing boat
6. E bungiaki natina are Karianako n te oonaoraki.
   born in the hospital
7. Ti kabooi taiani kariki n ana titooa Baong.
   in Baong's store
8. E kunea te boom Tatin inanon te nono.
   find bomb Tarzan in the battlement
9. Ti tiku i Bikenibeu.
   stay
10. E mooi manging Tiaon n te auti n iruwa.
   drinks to get drunk in the guest house

C. Form questions from the following sentences using Maiia:

1. E reke au b'aatika mairoun tariu are i Nauru.
gotten bicycle from my (brother) in Nauru
2. I roko mai Maiana.

3. E oti taai mai mainiku.
rise the sun from the east
4. E bung taai i maeao.
set in the west
5. E uotaki ana rebwerebwe Tiaon man te kaibuke.
brought motorcycle from the ship
6. A uruaki ara b'ai n am'arake mai Bonriki.
broken eating utensils
7. I karekea au kawaerake mai Biti.
bring trousers Fiji
8. Ti reirei te taetae ni Kiribati mai Vermont.
study Gilbertese from Vermont
9. E rabakau n takaakaro Tiaon mai Amerika.
learn how play
10. E karekea ana rongorongo man te boki.
bring news from the book

D. Use bukin teraa to form questions from the following sentences:

1. I nako Maiana ibukina b'a e a mate tibuu.
because my grandparent died
2. I kan nako Honolulu ibukina b'a I kan reirei.
want
3. A nako n akawa ibukina b'a a tangira te ika.
fishing likes
4. E m'ananga n te kaibuke b'a e beebete iai te kantoka.
travels on ship cheaper fare
5. E nakon te oonaoraki b'a e maraki birotona.
hospital stomach ache
6. Ti na kamatea ara beeki b'a iai te iruwa.
kill pigs guest
7. A kukurei ataei b'a a tib'a kaaitiboo ma tinaia.
happy children just met their mother
8. E rangi ni kabuebue ibukina b'a e tuai ni b'aka te karau.
very hot not yet rain
9. E aki roko te meeri b'a e uruaki.
ferry broken
10. E tangi natina ibukina b'a e tuai n am'arake.
cry his child eat

INTERROGATIVES

Review Exercises

Titiraki ma Kaekaana

questions and answers

Replace the blank with the appropriate question word for each pair of questions and answers:

1. ________ aran tinam?
   Aran tinau bon Nei Teretia.
2. ________ aran am kamea?
   Aran au kamea bon Tatin.
3. ________ nanon te taeka ni Kiribati ae kariki?
   Nanon te taeka ni Kiribati ae kariki boni 'bread'.
4. ________ ngkoe ni maeka i Maiana?
   Uoua au ririki ni maeka i Maiana.
5. Ko na nako Betio ________?
   N na nako Betio ningaabong.
6. ________ Baraniko te aiine aarei?
   M'aanen Baraniko te aiine aarei.
7. E roko ________ te mm'aane aarei?
   E roko te mm'aane aarei mai Beru.
8. E kabooaki ________ te bentira?
   E kabooaki n ana titooa Bauro.
9. E reke ________ am boki?
   E reke au boki mai Tarawa.
10. Te boki ________ ae ko kakaea?
    I kakaea te boki ae e uraura.
11. __________ kabooa am b'aatika?
    E kabooa au b'aatika tamau.
12. __________ kunea te boom?
    E kunea te boom Tatin.
13. Ko kabooi kariki ________?
    I kabooi kariki aika a buubura.
14. __________ am ririki?
    Tenibwi au ririki.
15. __________ ngkoe n reirei i Biti?
    Nimaua au ririki n reirei i Biti.
16. Ko na kabooa ________ am b'aatika?
    N na kabooa au b'aatika n te nam'akaina ae e na roko.
17. ________ e nakon te titooa?
    E nakon te titooa bukina b'a e na kabooa te kariki.

18. E oti taai _________?
E oti taai mai mainiku.
19. E na roko __________ te kaibuke?
E na roko n te Kaabong te kaibuke.
20. __________ aiine akekei Ten Tiaon?
Boni m'aaneia Ten Tiaon aiine akekei.
21. __________ booti aei?
Bon au booti aei.
22. __________ auti te auti aarei?
Bon ana auti Baie.
23. __________ te teei aarei?
Bon natiu te teei aarei.
24. __________ natim aiine?
Niiman natiu aiine.
25. __________ bon te maatiati?
Onoua te tianti bon te maatiati.
26. E reke _________ am booro?
E reke au booro inanon te baoki.
27. Ko na oki __________ man am m'ananga?
N na oki n te wiiki ae e na roko.
28. __________ te man aei?
Te man aei bon te aoti.
29. __________ ngkoe n tiku i Tarawa?
Teuana au ririki n tiku i Tarawa.
30. __________ ko nako Betio?
I nako Betio b'a N na noora tamau.

INTERROGATIVES - PART 5 - QUESTION VERBS

Lesson 9

Gilbertese uses seven verbs which have interrogative force. Otherwise they act just as any other verbs, being preceded by a subject pronoun to form a complete sentence:

1. Ngaa - to be where

E ngaa te kai ni b'ati?
it be where the bus stop

Where is the bus stop?

Ngaa is generally used only with the third person pronouns. In other cases, a construction with iia is preferred. (see preceding lesson.):

Ko maeka iia?
you live where?

It can also be used in the sense of 'when', 'where in time':

E ngaa te bong ae ko aki tabe iai?
it where the day that you not busy there

What day aren't you busy?

When used with this meaning, iai, meaning 'there, at that time' must be incorporated into both the question and answer:

Te Moanibong te bong ae I aki tabe iai.
Monday the day that I not busy then

I'm not busy on Monday.

2. Aera - to do what

Kam na aera?
you (pl) will do what?

What are you going to do?

Aera is also commonly used equivalent to "what did you say", when the last remark was misheard:

E aera?

What? How's that again?

It is often used as a greeting as well, in the sense "where are you going?":

Ko na aera?

Where are you going? What are you up to?

Sometimes it also means 'why', in which case it is used with ngkai, ngke, and ngkana, like bukin teraa. (See preceding lesson.) With ngke in the past, and ngkai in the non-past. Ngkana has the implication of the questioner's disapproval, disbelief, or challenge:

E aera ngkai ko nako Betio?
why now you go to Betio

Why are you going to Betio?

E aera ngkana ko nako Betio?

What are you going to Betio for?
(negative intonation)

3. Uara - to be how

Ko uara?
you be how

How are you?

E uara am mm'akuri?
it be how your work

How's your job?

4. Nakea - to go where

Ko na nakea?
you will go where

Where are you going?

Like ko (na) aera, ko (na) nakea is often used in passing as a greeting.

5. Kangaa - to do how, in what way

Ko kangaa ni karaoia?
you in what way of do it

How did you do it?

In some cases, like e aera, it can have the sense of 'what', as when asking someone what someone else said:

E kangaa ana taeka?
it be how his words

What did he say?

6. Rikea - to pass by where

Ko na rikea?
you will pass by where

Which route will you take?

7. Iraanna - to do in what way

Ko iraanna ni kateia?
you in what way of build it

How did you build it?

Iraanna is more commonly used in the passive form - Iraanaki, 'done in what way'. (See lesson on passives):

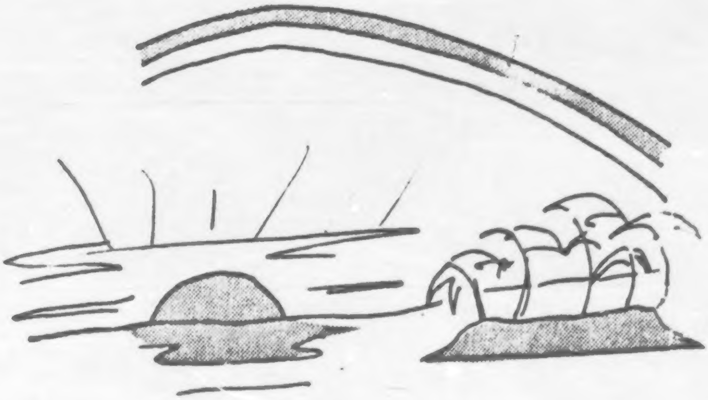
E iraanaki te am'arake?
it done in what way the food

How was that food made?

Note:

There is a word similar in sound to iraanna: iraana. It means roughly 'where' and is a composition of i, the locative prefix, plus raa, 'what' (lesson 7), plus the possessive suffix na, 'its', which gives raa the meaning of 'what relationship?'. Altogether it has the sense 'at what relationship to it; where?'.

Similarly, iraab'ai, 'on which side of the thing?', can be seen as a contraction of i + raa + (n + te) b'ai.



EXERCISES INTERROGATIVES - PART 5 - QUESTION VERBS

LESSON 9

A. Use ngaa to form questions to which the following sentences are answers:

1. Aarei te um'a ni kuuka.
that cook house
2. E mena i Betio tinau.
located
3. Are i Bonriki te marae ni waanikiba.
there airfield
4. Are irarikin te auti te kaa.
beside car
5. Aarei aobitin te reirei.
office of school
6. Te Katenibong te bong ae I aki tabe iai.
Wednesday busy
7. Te Kanimabong ae e na roko ae N na nako iai nako Betio.
Friday
8. Boni Maati te nam'akaina ae N na oki iai.
March month return
9. Are i Maiana tamau.

10. Bon Ritemba te nam'akaina ae e bati iai te kukurei.
December much happiness

B. Use aera to form questions to which the following sentences could be answers. Use the variety of forms you have studied:

1. Ti nangi mm'akuri ngkai.
about to work now
2. N na toka n te b'ati.
take bus
3. I tabe n reirei.
busy studying
4. E a mate te unimm'aane.
died old man
5. E na roko ningaabong te kaibuke.
tomorrow ship
6. I a tia n karaoia.
did it
7. I nako Betio b'a N na noora tamau.
because see
8. Bukina b'a I tabetabe.
because busy
9. E uruaki au b'aatika.
broken bicycle
10. I tabe ni mm'akuri.

C. Use uara to form questions to which the following could be answers:

1. I marurung.
well
2. Ti marurung.

3. E raoiroi Amerika.
good
4. E a tabe ni marurung.

5. A marurung.

6. E a raoiroi teutana waeu.
my leg
7. E buaakaka Hawaii.
bad
8. E kakukurei Kiribati.
makes happy
9. Ko marurung.

10. E a marurung imwiin aorakina.
his illness

D. Use nakea to form questions to which the following sentences could be answers:

1. E nako Biti tamau.

2. A nakon te titooa.

3. Ti nako Tabiteuea.

4. A nako Nonouti taan reirei.
teachers
5. N na nako Nauru.

6. Ti nang okira Kiribati.
return to
7. Ti nako Arorae n te wiiki ae e nako.
last
8. N nang okira abau.
my land
9. A na nako Amerika.

10. E na nako ni maeka i Kuria.
live

E. Use kangaa (ni karaoia), to form questions to which the following sentences could be answers:

1. E kaburoa te ran n te b'ata.
boil water pot
2. E roko Kum-On n te kaibuke.

3. A m'ananga n te waanikiba.
depart plane
4. I kabooa au boki n te m'ane.
buy money
5. E ongo te rongorongo man te aobiti.
hear news office
6. A karekeaki iika n te karaun.
get fish net
7. A kuneaki taani bure irouia Bureitiman.
found criminals by policeman
8. Ti roko n te kaibuke.

9. A kabooi aia kariki man te titooa.
buy bread
10. A kana te raiti b'a a kabooa man te titooa.
eat rice

F. Use rikea to form questions to which the following could be answers:

1. N na ri rarikin te titooa.
pass next to
2. E ri Nauru.

3. Ti na ri Bairiki.

4. A ri Kiritimati mai Hawaii.
Christmas Island
5. N na ri rarikin Baie.

6. E na ri akuun ana auti Meeri.
behind
7. E na ri Biti n nako Aotiteria.
Australia
8. Kam riai n ri rarikin te kawai.
must road
9. A ri nanon te kawai nakomai.
through to come here
10. A ri tanrake mai tabon te aba.
ocean side end of the island

G. Use iraanaki (iraanna) to form questions to which the following sentences could be answers:

1. E umunaki te am'arake aei.
   baked food
2. E koreaki te b'ai aei n te biti.
   cut thing knife
3. E oreaki te teei aei.
   hit child
4. E kaburoaki te mai aei.
   boiled breadfruit
5. E uruakaki te booti aei.
   broken boat
6. A oreaki ataei aikai iroun te tia reirei.
   hit children by teacher
7. E koreaki te booro aei.
   cut ball
8. E kaitiakaki te ruu.
   cleaned room
9. E kab'akaaki te ben.
   fallen coconut
10. E beeniaki te auti.
    painted house

IMPERATIVES - PART 1

Lesson 10

---

1. Basic Imperative Formation

Imperative sentences are generally formed by merely using the simple root form of the verb without a preceding subject pronoun:

Ko matuu iaon te kai ni wene.
you sleep on the bed
You are sleeping on the bed.

Matuu iaon te kai ni wene!
Sleep on the bed!

Ko taetae ni karaurau.
you speak softly
You are speaking softly.

Taetae ni karaurau!
Speak softly!

2. Negative Imperatives

To form a negative imperative sentence, tai, 'don't' is placed before the simple root form of the verb:

Tekateka! Sit down!	Tai tekateka! Don't sit down!
Anaa am kariki! Take your bread!	Tai anaa am kariki! Don't take your bread!

3. Imperatives with An

The opposite of tai, 'don't', is An, 'do, you must'. Like other forms ending in n it takes an inserted i when the following word begins with an incompatible consonant (see page 12):

An nako!
Do go! You must go!

Ani matuu!
You must sleep!

4. Lengthened Vowels

For a small set of intransitive verbs, the imperative form has a lengthened first vowel (except when used with tai or an):

nako	to go	biri	to run
naako!	go!	biiri!	run!
tai nako!	don't go!	tai biri!	don't run!
an nako!	do go!	ani biri!	you must run!

Other verbs following the same pattern:

tei	to stand	ruo	to descend
wene	to lie down	tiku	to stay
kiba	to jump	tine	to hang
rin	to enter	tang	to cry
iri	to accompany		

EXERCISES

IMPERATIVES - PART 1

LESSON 10

A. Form imperatives from the following sentences:

1. Ko taraa ikai.
look here
2. Kam tekateka iaon te inaai.
sit on the mat
3. Ko nakon te titooa.
go to store
4. Kam karekei amii boki.
get your books
5. Ko katokaa iaon te taibora.
put it on table
6. Kam matuu ikai.
sleep here
7. Ko korea am reta.
write letter
8. Kam kabooi amii boki.
buy books
9. Ko wetea natim.
call your child
10. Kam bootaki n te m'aneaba.
meet
11. Ko rerea te mooi.
mix drink
12. Kam taetae raoi.
speak well
13. Ko tebotebo i taari.
bathe sea
14. Kam Kanakoiia raomii.
send your friends
15. Ko uotaa mai te ran.
bring here water
16. Kam otea te kai.
break stick
17. Ko kaam'arakea te teei.
feed child
18. Kam kana te ika.
eat fish
19. Ko taua baiu.
hold my hand
20. Kam takaakaro iaon te bike.
play on beach

B. Give the imperative form of the following verbs. (Remember that some of them lengthen the vowel!):

1.	matuu	sleep
2.	nako	go
3.	taetae	speak
4.	ruo	descend
5.	biri	run
6.	uota	bring
7.	tei	stand
8.	wene	lie down
9.	korea	cut, write
10.	kaina	shut
11.	kauka	open
12.	boota	gather
13.	booa	hit
14.	taua	hold
15.	kaeta	correct
16.	kaota	show
17.	katika	pull
18.	kooka	push
19.	tiku	stay
20.	raraa	lean

C. Form negative imperative sentences from the following sentences:

1. Ko tei irarikina.
   next to him
2. Kam wene iaon te inaai.
   mat
3. Ko ruo man te nii.
   coconut tree
4. Ko nakon te titooa.
   store
5. Kam matuu inanon te ruu.
   in room
6. Ko taetae buaka.
   swear
7. Kam mooi n te ran.
   drink water
8. Ko tarai matau.
   look at my eyes
9. Kam ongora n au karaki.
   listen to my story
10. Ko katokaa iaon te taibora.
    put it on table

C. continued...

11. Kam anene n te ruu.
    sing room
12. Ko karabako ikanne.
    hide yourself there
13. Kam tiku n te bootaki.
    group
14. Ko iri n te taamnei.
    attend movie
15. Kam kana te am'arake.
    eat food
16. Ko maeka ikai.
    live here
17. Kam reirei ikekei.
    study there
18. Ko urua te mataroa.
    break door
19. Kam kiitanai.
    leave me
20. Ko wetea arana.
    call his name

D. Reform the sentences in Exercise C using an to form imperatives.

IMPERATIVES - PART 2

Lesson 11

1. Imperatives formed with 'na'

a. First Person Plural

The formation of the imperative for the first person plural, "Let's ________!" is identical in structure to the future form, constructed with na ('will'):

Ti na nako. We will go.	ti na nako! Let's go!
Ti na am'arake. We will eat.	Ti na am'arake! Let's eat!

Context and expression serve to clarify the meanings.

Note: Another common way of forming this imperative is with a, the marker for incompleted action:

Ti na nako! = Ti a nako! = Let's go!

Ti na am'arake! = Ti a am'arake! = Let's eat!

b. Second Person

Second person imperatives (you) can also be formed by using the future form with na:

Ko na wene. You will lie down.	Ko na wene! Lie down!
Kam na taetae. You're going to talk.	Kam na taetae! Talk!

c. Negative imperatives with 'na aki'

When the future form is used as an imperative, the negative is formed in the same way as in a simple sentence, by inserting aki 'not' before the verb:

Ko na aki nako. You will not go.	Ko na aki nako! Don't go!
Ti na aki matuu. We won't sleep.	Ti na aki matuu! Let's not sleep!

2. Imperatives with 'ke'

A form of imperative sentence can be constructed by beginning a sentence with ke ('or'). This construction is limited to third person subjects in the present tense:

Ke e naako!
Let him go! (It's alright if he goes.)

Ke a am'arake!
Let them eat! (It's alright if they eat.)

(Note that the lengthened vowel form of the verb is used with ke constructions.)

3. Taiaoka, butiiko

A form of softened imperative can be made by using taiaoka ('please'):

Taiaoka te ran.

Please (let me have) some water.

Ko na taiaoka n aki nako.
you will please not go

Please don't go.

Equivalent to taiaoka in usage is butiiko:

I butiiko te ran.

Please (let me have) some water.

4. Imperative Verbs

Two Kiribati verbs seem to be used uniquely in the imperative, both with the same sense:

Ngkaa!	Give (it to) me!
Kaamai!	"

(Note: Apparently in the speech of some older speakers these two can still be used as productive verbs: E ngkaa te boki. = He gave me the book.)

EXERCISES

IMPERATIVES - PART 2

LESSON 11

A. Change the following sentences into the first person plural imperative form ("Let's _______!"):

1. Ko nakon te titooa.

2. A karaoa te auti.
build

3. E korea arana.
write his name

4. I kunea te boki.
find book

5. Kam rin n te auti.
enter

6. E wetea te unimm'aane.
calls old man

7. A am'arake ni bootaki.
together

8. Ko kauka te mataroa.
open door

9. E karina ana reta.
posts

10. A toka iaon te kaibuke.
ride ship

11. A biri n te marae.
run field

12. E mooi.
drinks

13. Ko matuu.
sleep

14. A nako n akawa.
fishing

15. I uaua.
swim

16. E boob'ai.
shops

17. I teitei.
stand up

18. A nako Betio.

19. A anene.
sing

20. Ko ruo man te nii.
descend coconut tree

B. Give a different imperative form for each of the following imperative sentences:

1. Tai nako!
go
2. Ko na wene!
lie down
3. Tai taetae!
talk
4. Kam na aki biri!
run
5. Tai kabooi kariki!
buy bread
6. Ko na kaina te mataroa!
close door
7. Tai kabaea!
tie
8. Ko na kab'araa au bure!
excuse me (my 'sin')
9. Kam na aki kaotia nakon neierei!
show it
10. Tai kaaki te boki ikai!
put here
11. Ko na aki tauai!
touch me
12. Ko na am'arake!
eat
13. Ko na korea iram!
cut your hair
14. Tai bakataea te m'ane!
waste money
15. Tai karaki nakoina!
tell stories to him
16. Kam na anai been!
give me coconuts
17. Kam na kanakoi amii boki!
send your books
18. Tai weteia!
call him
19. Ko na tai kaniai!
come closer
20. Kam na keemai!
move closer

C. Use ke to form sentences which respond to the following statements:

example - E kan nako.	Ke e naako.
He wants to go.	Let him go!

1. E kani mooi.
2. A kan tiku.
3. E kani wene.
4. E kani kiba.
5. E kan tei.
6. E kani biri.
7. E kan ongoraa.
8. E kan rin.
9. E kan roko.
10. E kan ruo.

D. Reform the following statements as requests, using taiaoka:

example - I tangira te ran.	Taiaoka te ran.
I want some water.	Please, some water.
Tai nako!	Ko na taiaoka n aki nako.
Don't go!	You will please not go.

1. I tangira te am'arake.
2. Tai butiai te boki!
   ask me
3. I tangira te boki.
4. Tai matuu ikai!
5. I tangira te m'ane.
6. Tai bubuti te m'ane!
   borrow
7. I tangira te ika.
8. Tai tuangai te b'ai aanne!
   tell me thing that
9. I tangira te moko.
   smoke
10. Tai taua au boki!
    touch

E. Reform the odd numbered sentences of Part D above using I butiiko:

example - I tangira te am'arake. I want some food.	I butiiko te am'arake. Please give me some food.

F. Translate the following into Kiribati: (to be written)

1. Buy the bread!
2. Please let me have the book.
3. Don't go!
4. Don't write the letter!
5. Let him eat the fish!
6. Let's sleep!
7. Lie down!
8. Don't go to the store!
9. Please give me some money.
10. Talk!
11. Enter the room!
12. Let her sleep!
13. Give it to me!
14. Please let me have some water.

NEGATIVES

Lesson 12

---

1. aki - not

Negation of Kiribati statements in the present/past, progressive, and future tenses is accomplished by inserting aki 'not' before the verb (after the auxiliary):

E ngare teuaarei.
he laugh that man

That man laughs/laughed

E aki ngare teuaarei.
he not laugh that man

That man didn't laugh.

I a nakonako.
I am walking

I a aki nakonako.
I'm not walking.

E na kabooa te miriki.
He will buy the milk.

E na aki kabooa te miriki.
He won't buy the milk.

(Kiribati uses another word for 'not' as well, but its use is much more limited. aikoa, 'not, contrary to as expected' is only used with a, the marker for incompleted action:

E a aikoa roko.
He's not coming. (contrary to expectations)

I a aikoa roko ngke e tairiki b'a I tabe.

I didn't come last night (contrary to expectations) because I was busy.

When used in the past as in the last example, it requires an accompanying phrase of explanation: 'b'a...')

2. tuai, tuai men - not yet, never

Negation of a statement or question in the completed past is accomplished by replacing a tia n 'finished' with tuai n 'not yet', or a more emphatic form, tuai men, 'certainly not yet, never':

I a tia n korea te reta.
I wrote the letter. (it's finished)

I tuai ni korea te reta.
I've not yet written the letter.

E a tia n roko.
He came. He has arrived.

E tuai n roko.
He hasn't arrived yet.

E tuai men roko.
He's never come. He hasn't ever come.

3. Negative responses to questions

Kiribati has three different ways of responding negatively to a question, determined by the nature of the question which is asked. In most cases the English answer to any of them would be simply 'no'.

a. aki

When a simple yes-no question is posed, beginning with a subject pronoun, the negative responsc is the appropriate subject pronoun + aki (and optionally, the remainder of the negated proposition):

E ngare teuaarei? Did that man laugh?	E aki. No (, he didn't).
Ko kabooa te iriko? Did you buy the meat?	I aki. No. (I didn't)
N na nako Betio? Will I go to Betio?	Ko aki. No. (you won't)
Ti a tia ni mm'akuri? Have we finished the work?	Ti tuai. No. (we haven't yet)

Ti a nakonako?	Ti na aki.
Will we walk?	No. (we won't)
Ti a nako?	Kam aki.
Can we go?	No. (you can't)
A na karaoia?	A aki.
Will they do it?	No. (they won't)

Remember that a response to a negative question shows the responder's evaluation of the truth of the statement, unlike English. (see page 31):

E aki roko?	E eng.
He hasn't come?	No. (yes, it's true, he hasn't come)
A aki buubura?	A buubura.
They're not big?	Yes. (no, it's not true, they are big)

b. tiaki

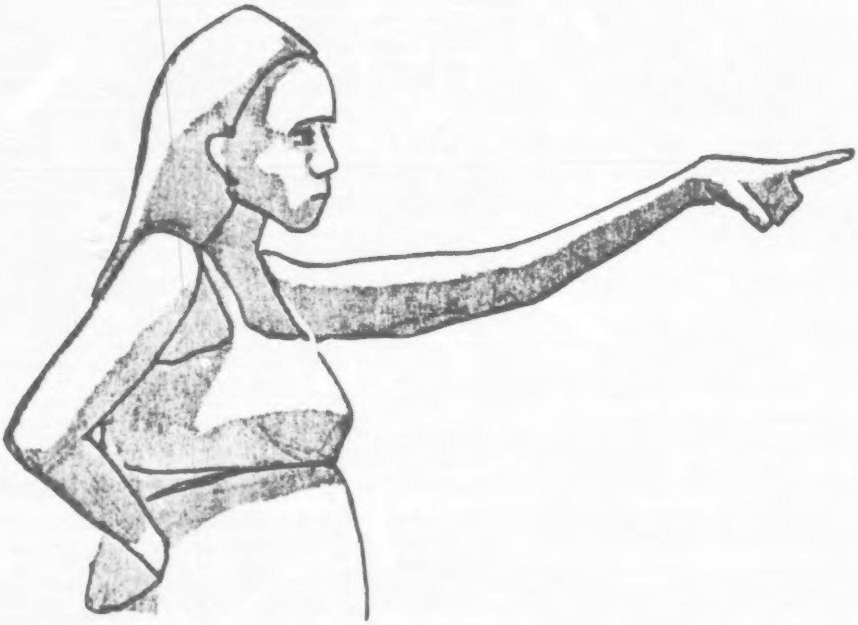
When a yes-no question begins with a word other than a subject pronoun, such as a possessive, bon ('truly') iai ('there is, are'), or other form, the negative answer is tiaki ('no'). (Note that this is written as one word, unlike ti aki, although virtually indistinguishable in pronunciation):

Aio am b'ai?	Tiaki.
Is this your thing?	No.
Bon ana auti?	Tiaki.
Is it his house?	No.
Am bentira aei?	Tiaki.
Is this your pencil?	No.
Raam teuaarei?	Tiaki au koraki.
What relation is he to you?	No relation of mine.
Tiaon aei?	Tiaki.
Is this John?	No.
Antai ae e na buokai?	Tiaki ngai.
Who will help me?	Not me.

c. akea

When the question is one of quantity, and the answer is 'none', the Kiribati response is akea (none, nothing):

Iraua am boki?	Akea. (naba teuana)
How many books have you?	None. (not even one)
Iai am bentira?	Akea.
Do you have a pencil?	No. (none)
E bati te aomata iai?	Akea.
Are there many people there?	No, none.
E ngaa Tawita?	Akea.
Where' David?	Not here.



EXERCISES NEGATIVES

LESSON 12

A. Make negative statements from the following sentences, using aki:

1. E noora te aiine.
see woman
2. I toka n te b'aatika.
ride on bicycle
3. Ti takaakaro n te marae.
play field
4. Ti tebotebo i taari.
wash sea
5. A wareka te rongorongo.
read news
6. E taetae nakon tinana.
speak his mother
7. Kam noorai?
see me
8. Ti kana te ben.
eat coconut
9. I nako Beru.

10. A kukurei ataeinimm'aane.
happy children
11. E nakon te titooa.
store
12. A toka n te kaa.
car
13. E buti te booti.
goes boat
14. E kiba te waanikiba.
fly airplane
15. Ti ongo te rongorongo.
hear
16. I koroboki n te been.
write pen
17. E oki mai Kuria.
return
18. Ti mooi n te ran.
drink water
19. E moomoko n te rauara.
smoke rauara
20. Ti kaakana te bakoa.
eating shark

B. Answer the following questions using tuai or tuai men:

1. Kam a tia n roko i Butaritari?

2. E a tia n tebotebo?
bathed
3. Ko a tia n noora te kamea?
dog
4. E a uti?
awakened
5. Kam a tauraoi?
ready
6. Ko a tia n am'arake?
eaten
7. E a matuu?
asleep
8. A a nako?

9. Kam a tia ni kabooi kariki?
bought bread
10. E a tauraoi te am'arake?
ready food
11. Ko a tia ni korea am karewe?
cut toddy
12. E a mai te am'arake?
cooked
13. A a tia ni kaam'arakeiia beeki?
feed pigs
14. Ko rabakau n te taetae ni Kiribati?

15. E a tei am auti?
built
16. Ko a tia ni kaaitiboo ma Titewen?
met Steven
17. A roko am koraki?
family
18. Ko a rabakau ni moko?
smoking
19. Ko a tia n tareboon?
telephoned
20. E a kukurei buum?
happy your spouse

C. Answer the following questions with short negative answers:

1. Ko kukurei ni m'ananga?
happy depart

2. E roko am reta?
letter

3. Kam a tia n am'arake?

4. Ko ongo te rongorongo?
hear news

5. E moomoko?
smokes

6. E kaakana te raiti?
eat rice

7. A nako ataeinimm'aane?
children

8. Kam a mm'akuri?
work

9. A rabakau ni koroboki?
writing

10. E kabooa te miriki?
milk

D. Answer the following questions with long negative answers:

1. Ko noora ana kamea Toma?
see dog

2. E korea te reta nakon tinana?
write letter his mother

3. Ko a tia ni kabooa te kariki?
bought bread

4. A a tia n nako Nikunau?

5. E a tia n am'arake?

6. Ko karaoa te mataroa?
make door

7. Kam ataia ae ngai te bureitiman?
know I policeman

8. E ataia ae ti na nako Betio?

9. Ko a tia n tebotebo?
bathed

10. Kam a matuu?
sleep

E. Answer the following questions, first positively, then negatively:

1. E aki uotia?
   bring it

2. A aki ongo?
   hear

3. Kam aki ataia?
   know it

4. E aki ongo?

5. Ko aki nooria?
   see it

6. Ko aki anaia?
   take it

7. A na aki oki?
   return

8. E na aki nakomai?
   come here

9. Ko aki tuangga?
   tell him

F. Give long or short negative answers to the following questions:

1. Am auti aei?
   house this

2. Ana rebwerebwe aei?
   motorcyle

3. Arei aia auti?
   that

4. Aei ana b'aatika Toma?
   bicycle

5. Au b'ai aei?
   thing

6. Bon am booti aei?
   boat

7. Bon te koaua?
   truth

8. E boni koaua?
   true

9. A bon roko?
   arrived

10. Kam anaia?
    take it

11. E kewe?
    lying

G. Give negative answers to the following questions:

1. E roko Meeri?
arrive
2. Kam noora te boki?
see book
3. Ko a tia n am'arake?

4. Iai am moko?
smoke
5. Ko noora au boki?

6. Iraai am been?
pen
7. Ti na nako?

8. E a tia n nako?

9. Kam marurung?
well
10. E na oki?
return
11. Ko ataia?
know it
12. Am auti aei?

13. E buubura am auti?
big
14. Ti ngkoe?
only
15. Ti ngkamii?

16. Iai ana moko?
is there
17. E mm'akuri Tim?
work
18. A na roko ikai?
here
19. Abam aei?
your land
20. Aram Tauro?
your name

H. Write out questions to which the following are answers:

1. Akea au been.

2. I tuai n roko i Makin.

3. Tiaki abara aei.

4. I aki noora Tiaon.

5. Akea Bauro ikai.

6. Bon tiaki ngaia.

7. E tuai n am'arake.

8. N na aki nako.

9. Tiaki au boki aanne.

10. Kam na aki tiku ikai.

NOUNS - INTRODUCTORY

Lesson 13

One characteristic of Kiribati word formation is that the same form may often serve diverse functions. Thus a word may appear as a noun, verb, or adjective, without any change of spelling:

te mm'akuri	work
te tia mm'akuri	worker
e mm'akuri	he works
te taibora ni mm'akuri	work table

1. Nominalization

Kiribati has the capacity to form nouns from verbs by preceding them with the article te (see next lesson). Nouns may be formed similarly from most adjectives:

nako	to go
te nako	the going
mm'akuri	to work
te mm'akuri	the work
uraura	red
te uraura	the redness
nanokaawaki	sad
te nanokaawaki	sadness

2. Possession

A singular characteristic of nouns is their ability to be possessed. Kiribati makes great use of this process, and it is somewhat complex. (See lesson on possession):

uraura	red
uraurana	its redness
nako	to go
nakou	my going

Often possession is indicated by a suffix as in the above examples. Separate possessive pronouns also precede nouns:

ana auti	his house
aia boki	their books

3. Plurality

Most nouns have no distinct plural form, but those that do usually lengthen the first vowel in the plural. No general rule governs which nouns operate in this manner. Many other markers are available, however, so plurality is usually quite clear. (See lesson on plurals)

te boki	book
booki	books
te b'airi	nose
b'airi	noses

4. Gender

Kiribati nouns have no intrinsic gender (like English, but unlike French or German). When necesarry to indicate the sex of a noun, mm'aane (male) or aine (female) is added to the noun. (See lesson on compounding):

te moa	chicken
te moa mm'aane	rooster
te moa aiine	hen

When the noun is human, the linker 'n' may be used. (See lesson on 'n' in lesson on possessives):

ataei	child
ataeinimm'aane	boy
ataeinnaiine	girl

THE ARTICLE

Lesson 14

---

1. te

Singular Kiribati nouns are always preceded by the article te, with the exception of names of places, people, and when used with a form of the possessive pronoun. In this respect it is very similar to English, where you don't say 'the New York', 'the Roosevelt', or 'the my book'. Unlike 'a' or 'the', however, te only indicates singularity, with no indication of definiteness, and thus has no exact equivalent in English. (Note that Kiribati can and does indicate definiteness of a noun through the use of demonstrative pronouns. See the lesson on these demonstratives.):

te auti	house, a house, the house
te mata	eye, an eye, the eye
te aiine	woman, a woman, the woman

Before collective nouns, substances, etc, te can also have the meaning 'some':

te ran	water, some water, the water
te boki	wind, some wind, the wind

And it can also denote a class:

te ika	fish (in general)
te boki	books (in general)

When placed before adjectives and verbs, it serves to transform them into nouns:

uraura	red
te uraura	redness
mm'akuri	to work
te mm'akuri	the work
nanokaawaki	sad
te nanokaawaki	sadness

A small class of nouns which do not fit into the above categories for exceptions do not take the article te. This set is generally composed of those things of which there are only considered to be one:

taai	sun
nam'akaina	moon
karawa	heaven
marawa	sea
aonnaba	earth
taari	sea
moone	hell

When some of these nouns do appear after the article, there is a change in meaning:

te taai	burning glass (magnifier)
te nam'akaina	month
te taari	salt
te marawa	an ocean (a specific one)

Similarly, compass points and directions do not take the article.

2. taian

Taian can be considered to be the plural from of te. It can be used before any countable noun to show that there are more than one:

taiani boki	books, some books, the books
taian rua	pits, some pits, the pits

Unlike te, however, its use is optional, for plurality can be indicated by a number of other devices, including demonstrative pronouns and transitive object pronouns. (See lesson on plurality):

booki akanne	those books
taiani boki akanne	those books

Some nouns lengthen a vowel in the plural. After taian however, there is no lengthening. Remember that an 'i' must be inserted after taian when the first sound of the next word is incompatible with 'n'. (See page 12)

3. te naa n

While not an article the expression 'te naa n _____' often replaces 'taian' before plural nouns, with the sense 'a group of', 'a crowd of', 'a bunch of':

te naa n aomata	a crowd of people
te naa ni man	a band of animals
te naa ni kai	a group of trees
te naa ni* waa	a fleet of canoes

*(ni will be heard to be pronounced nu before waa.)

4. Person Articles

Kiribati does sometimes employ an article before the names of people, somewhat equivalent to the English Mr. or Ms., but its use seems apparently less widespread now than in former times. It is most frequently heard before names which are also words in their own right, so perhaps the introduction of so many European names has lessened its usefulness.

There is some dialect distinction in the use of these articles, especially between Butaritari-Makin and the rest of the group. Throughout the entire group, the feminine article stays the same: Nei

Nei Iaonna
Nei Artititi
Nei Tebora
etc.

For masculine names, except in Butaritari-Makin, the form is Te, Tem, Ten, or Teng, depending on the initial sound of the name it precedes. Quite a bit of variation exists, but the most common pattern is as follows:

Te before I, U, W, B', Ng
Ten " A, E, O, N, R, T
Tem " B, M
Teng " K, (Ng)

In Butaritari-Makin, the forms are Na, Nan, Nam, Nang:

Na before A, E, I, O, U, W, B'
Nan " T, R, N*
Nam " B, M
Nang " K, Ng

(* often used with no article.)

Thus, in summary:

Name	Main Group	Butaritari-Makin
Arobati	Ten Arobati	Na Arobati
Beniamina	Tem Beniamina	Nam Beniamina
Eria	Ten Eria	Na Eria
Iaone	Te Iaone	Na Iaone
Mareko	Tem Mareko	Nam Mareko
Nikora	Ten Nikora	(Nan) Nikora
Otea	Ten Otea	Na Otea
Rui	Ten Rui	Nan Rui
Taomati	Ten Taomati	Nan Taomati
Kaitara	Teng Kaitara	Nang Kaitara
Ngauea	Te/Teng Ngauea	Nang Ngauea
Bwebweata	Te Bwebweata	Na Bwebweata
Uriam	Te Uriam	Na Uriam
Wiriam	Te Wiriam	Na Wiriam

These forms will be most often used in writing, or when speaking of someone (third person), rather than directly addressed to someone.

105

A. Insert the singular article te into the following (ungrammatical) sentences in its proper position:

1. E b'aka nii.
   fall coconut tree
2. I tangira miriki.
   want milk
3. Ti noora booti.
   see boat
4. Ko kana ben.
   eat coconut
5. E anaa m'angko.
   take cup
6. I taua b'aatika.
   hold bicycle
7. Kam noora kaibuke.
   see ship
8. E biri kirii.
   run dog
9. E matuu katam'a.
   sleep cat
10. Ko kabooa kariki.
   buy bread
11. I korea karewe.
   cut toddy
12. E buti kaa.
   move car
13. E b'aro ran.
   pour water
14. E m'aoto kai.
   break stick
15. E un kirii.
   angry dog
16. E rarangaa kie.
   weave mat
17. E bua m'ane.
   lose money
18. Ko korea reta.
   write letter
19. Ti nako n titooa.
   go store
20. A nako n um'antabu.
   church

B. Insert the plural article taian(i) (or te naa n(i)) into its proper position in the following sentences. (Note that nouns which would lengthen the vowel in the plural are given in the unlengthened form which would appear after taian.)

1. Iai boki iaon te taibora.
   books on table
2. E wareki boki.
   read
3. A nakonako ataeinimm'aane.
   walk boys
4. A uoti ika.
   bring fish
5. A mate taura.
   go out lamps
6. Ti noori taamnei.
   see movies
7. Kam kauki baoki.
   open boxes
8. Iai karaki inanon te boki.
   stories in
9. A toka am'arake iaon te taibora.
   place food
10. E wene Meere iaon baoki.
    lie boxes
11. E uoti raurau Tiaon.
    plates
12. Uoti mai am'arake Maria.
    bring here food
13. Aei aia auti reebera.
    their house lepers
14. A ngaa aomata ake ikai?
    where people here
15. Tai riiing boki aikai.
    touch these
16. A booti b'ai n takaakaro.
    put together
17. A un moa akekei.
    angry chickens those
18. A b'aka beeba iaon tano.
    fall papers on the ground
19. A taui biti i baiia.
    hold knives their hands
20. E kiniki uee Tebora.
    pick

C. Change the articles in the following sentences from singular to plural and vice versa. (Change the subject pronoun as well, where necessary - see lesson on subject pronouns if necessary):

1. E b'aka te ben.
   fall coconut
2. E roko te waa.
   come canoe
3. A matuu taian aaine.
   sleep women
4. E unika te aroka. (unika becomes unikii with plural object)
   plant plant
5. E kab'aka te ben.
   throw down
6. A tang taian teei.
   cry children
7. E buubura te booro.
   big ball
8. E m'aiti te kaa ikai.
   many cars here
9. A biri te naa n aomata.
   run people
10. E koro te booti.
    grounded boat
11. E uki te mataroa.
    open door
12. E a bane te am'arake.
    all gone food
13. A kiba ieta taiani mannikiba.
    fly up birds
14. E maimai te boki. (boki becomes booki in plural)
    wet book
15. E korakora te nao.
    strong wave
16. A uti taian aomata.
    awake people
17. E oti te itoi.
    rise star
18. E aki kibanako te mannikiba.
    fly away birds
19. A ngare te naa n aiine.
    laugh women
20. E kaitiaka te m'angko. (kaitiaka becomes kaitiakii with plural
    clean cup object)

D. Place the appropriate person article in front of the following names. Use either that for the main group or Butaritari-Makin according to where you expect to spend time:

1. Bauro
2. Uritoa
3. Meeri (F)
4. Tiaon
5. Ruta (F)
6. Kaake
7. Maio
8. Reeti (F)
9. Wiri
10. Uriam
11. Aata
12. Enoka
13. Eeta (F)
14. Morita (F)
15. Iotin
16. Otati
17. Ngauea
18. Rooti
19. Aana (F)
20. Oriwa (F)

Note: feminine names above are marked with (F).

E. Write translation for the following sentences:

1. The canoe arrived yesterday.
2. Some children are crying.
3. The books are on the table.
4. Where is the box?
5. A crowd of people have arrived.
6. Don't buy the rice!
7. The cat is sleeping on the table.
8. Mary is walking in the road.
9. I didn't see Ngauea.
10. Did John go to Bairiki?
11. There are bicycles in the house!
12. Does Maio want some milk?
13. I lost the money.
14. Are there stories in the book?
15. Those chickens are upset (angry).

PLURALIZATION

Lesson 15

Plurality of nouns is indicated in a variety of ways in Kiribati. Many nouns have a separate plural form, in which the vowel (usually the first) is lengthened. However, many more do not, and there is no dependable way of predicting which nouns will have a separate plural form. (In the glossary, nouns which have a lengthened plural form are marked with a star.)

In no case is the lengthened vowel the sole indicator of plurality though, and so there should be little difficulty in recognizing or producing plural constructions.

1. absence of te

As the presence of the singular article te is generally obligatory (except, for example, when the noun is possessed) its absence is almost always a sure sign of the plural. (see Lesson 14):

Iai te neera iaon te taibora.
there is a nail on the table.

Iai __ neera iaon te taibora.
there are nails on the table.

2. presence of taian(i)

Similarly, the presence of the plural article taian(i) is a clear indicator of a noun's plurality:

Iai taian auti inanon te kaawa.
there are houses in the village.

Note that when taian is used with a noun which has a separate lengthened plural form, the unlengthened form appears:

Iai booki iaon te taibora.
there are books on the table.

Iai taiani boki iaon te taibora.
there are books on the table.

3. relative pronouns

Relative pronouns distinguish between singular and plural

Iai booki aika a uraura iaon te taibora.
there are books which (pl.) red on the table.
There are (some) red books on the table.

Notice also that in this example, the vowel is lengthened in booki, and there is the absence of te.

4. demonstrative pronouns

Like the relative pronouns, demonstratives mark number. (see Lesson __ on demonstratives):

Boni __ uee akekei.
it's flowers those
It's those flowers.

And there is the absence of te as well.

5. numbers

Numbers, (even when there is the presence of te) are clear and obvious indicators of plurality:

Iai uoman te aomata iaon te bike.
There are two people on the beach.

Bon teniua aia auti.
truly three their houses
They have three houses.

6. other quantity words

The presence of words such as tabeua, 'some', or bati, 'many' also serve to mark plurals:

Iai tabeman aiine ikai.
There are some women here.

E bati te maninnara.
There are many mosquitos.

7. subject pronouns

When the noun is the subject of the sentences, the subject pronoun indicates both person and number:

A mena iaon te taibora neera.
they be located on the table nails

The nails are on the table.

8. objects

Similarly, when the noun is in the object position in a sentence, the ending of the verb changes to indicate plurality. (see Lesson __ on object pronouns):

I noora te boki.
I see the book.

I noori booki.
I see the books.

I nooriia aomata.
I see the people.

9. taan

The plural form of tia, the agent prefix (-er), is taan, another plural indicator:

Iai taan reirei ikekei.
There are some teachers there.

A. Underline the plural indicators in the following sentences:

1. A bua taiani boki.
   lost books
2. A booti been.
   gather
3. A buti taian nang i karawa.
   move clouds sky
4. A bootaki aiine n te auti.
   gathered women house
5. A nakonako taake n te kawai.
   walk ducks road
6. A kaukaki taiani baoki.
   opened boxes
7. A kawakawa iino.
   crawl maggots
8. I taetae ma taian aomata.
   speak people
9. A irakeaki iie.
   raised sails
10. A uruaki taiani kaa.
    broken cars
11. E maeka ma maan.
    lives animals
12. A riki iia i atuna.
    grow grey hairs his head
13. Ko urui taiani mataroa.
    break doors
14. A aki buti b'aati ngkai.
    run buses now
15. A korakora taian nao.
    strong waves
16. A kakangi biiti aikai.
    sharp knives these
17. A ure taian uee.
    open flowers
18. A bua reeta mai ikai.
    lost letters from here
19. A tang tiina.
    cry mothers
20. A rarangai taiani kie.
    weave mats

B. Underline the plural indicators in the following sentences:

1. A bootaki taian aiine n te auti.
   gathered women house
2. A kakarau boong aikai.
   rainy days these
3. Iai taama iaoni Kiribati.
   fathers
4. Iai taan reirei ikai.
   teachers here
5. Ti nooriia aomata ikekei.
   see people there
6. A nako aiine akekei.
   go women here
7. E bati te nango ikai.
   many flies here
8. E uoti b'aai man te titooa.
   bring things from the store
9. Iai aiine tabeman aika a nako.
   some who go
10. I nooriia uoman aomata.
    see two people
11. Iai auti aika a buubura i Tarawa.
    houses which big
12. I nooriia aiine ake a nako.
    see women go
13. Bon taama naakai.
    fathers those men
14. Iai taiani waa i taari.
    some canoes sea
15. A beibeti waa i taari.
    float
16. A anene taan anene.
    sing singers
17. I kiniki uee.
    pick flowers
18. E kanakoiia aomata.
    send away people
19. A matuu tabeman aomata ikai.
    sleep people here
20. Anganai tennai te kariki.
    give me three bread

C. Give the plural forms of the following nouns. Use taian(i) or length:

1. te auti
   house
2. te ika
   fish
3. te bike
   beach
4. te ie
   sail
5. te kaa
   car
6. te ria
   lip
7. te boki
   book
8. te b'ai
   thing
9. te bong
   day
10. te aro
    religion
11. te rau
    thatch
12. te kawai
    road
13. te roobu
    rope
14. te rama
    outrigger float
15. te ruura
    ruler
16. te booti
    boat
17. te ben
    coconut
18. te tobu
    soap
19. te uaa
    fruit
20. te moa
    chicken

D. Rewrite the following sentences in the plural:

1. Iai te ika ikai.
2. I noora te aomata ikekei.
3. E a nako te aiine.
4. Iai te boki ikai.
5. Iai te tia reirei ikekei.
6. I noora te boki.
7. I korea te reta.
8. Iai te aiine ikai.
9. Iai temanna te aiine iaon te bike.
10. Bon te uee aarei.
11. Ti anenea te anene.
12. Iai te auti inanon te kaawa.
13. Bon te tama aarei.
14. E mena iaon te taibora te am'arake.
15. E matuu te tia mm'akuri.
16. I kaina te mataroa.
17. Bon te uaa aei.

NUMBERS - PART 1 - INTRODUCTORY

Lesson 16

The Kiribati counting system is a familiar one, based on the number ten. However, in the Kiribati system, small affixes called classifiers, are added to the numeral prefixes for counting different classes of objects. While this system was once quite extensive, in current usage you can get by with using only a few major classifiers.

1. -ua

The general classifier, used for common objects and when the particular classifier is not known, as well as for periods of time, is -ua. It is the classifier most often used for general counting, as in response to the instruction, 'count from one to ten'.

2. 1-10

The entire system can be seen as basically constructed from the numeral roots from one to ten, shown here separated from the classifier. They are normally written as one word. The Kiribati term for zero (0) is akea, 'nothing':

Roots		Classifier		
1.	te	ua	na	teuana
2.	uo	ua		uoua
3.	ten(i)	ua		teniua
4.	a	ua		aua
5.	nima	ua		nimaua
6.	ono	ua		onoua
7.	it(i)	ua		itiua
8.	wan(i)	ua		waniua
9.	ruai	ua		ruaiua
10.	te	bwi	na	tebwina

The numbers from one to nine show the numeral roots, to which the classifier -ua has been attached. Ten, tebwina, includes the root bwi 'ten', from which the multiples of ten are constructed.

Notice that 'one', te-ua-na, has the classifier enclosed between two forms, te- and -na. This is also the way the number ten is formed: te-bwi-na. All the other forms add the classifier at the end.

There is some variation in the formation of numbers from this pattern:

2.	uo-	this form only appears before the general classifier -ua and the classifier for animate things, -man. In all other positions it appears as ua-, for example, ua-bwi = 20.
3.	ten(i) -	
7.	it(i) -	
8.	wan(i) -	these three forms with the (i) only appear with the i in Southern Kiribati. In the north they are written and pronounced: tenua, itua, wanua.
5.	nima -	before the animate classifier -man, this form is reduced to nii-: niiman = 5 (animate).
6.	ono-	before the classifier -ai (for elongated objects) this form is changed to one-: oneai = 6.
9.	ruai -	this form only occurs before -ua. In all other cases the i is omitted: ruaman = 9, ruabwi = 90.

The general however, you will find that the patterns for the construction of the numbers with their classifiers is fairly straightforward, with the exceptions being easily mastered.

3. 10-100

The numbers from 10 to 100 are constructed from the numeral root + bwi (10) + ma (and/with) + the numbers from 1 to 10 with their classifiers. Note that bwi and all forms constructed with it, is only used in those cases where the classifier -ua can be used. In all other cases -ngaun = 10 (see next lesson):

11.	te	bwi	+	ma	+	teuana	tebwi ma teuana
12.	te	bwi	+	ma	+	uoua	tebwi ma uoua
13.	te	bwi	+	ma	+	teniua	tebwi ma teniua
14.	te	bwi	+	ma	+	aua	tebwi ma aua
15.	te	bwi	+	ma	+	nimaua	tebwi ma nimaua
20.	ua	bwi					uabwi (not uobwi)
26.	ua	bwi	+	ma	+	onoua	uabwi ma onoua
27.	ua	bwi	+	ma	+	itiua	uabwi ma itiua
28.	ua	bwi	+	ma	+	waniua	uabwi ma waniua
29.	ua	bwi	+	ma	+	ruaiua	uabwi ma ruaiua
30.	teni	bwi					tenibwi
40.	a	bwi					abwi
50.	nima	bwi					nimabwi
60.	ono	bwi					onobwi
70.	iti	bwi					itibwi
80.	wani	bwi					wanibwi
90.	rua	bwi					ruabwi (not ruaibwi)
100.	te	bubua					tebubua

4. 100 - 1000

Numbers in the hundreds are constructed using the numberal root + bubua (100) + the number from 1 to 99 with the classifier. Note that this is not joined to bubua with ma:

100. tebubua
150. tebubua nimabwi
275. uabubua itibwi ma nimaua (not uobubua)
342. tenibubua abwi ma uoua
481. abubua wanibwi ma teuana
501. nimabubua ao teuana*
600. onobubua
700. itibubua
800. wanibubua
900. ruabubua (not ruaibubua)
1000. te-ngaa (tengaa)

*When one of the hundreds is followed by a number less than ten, it is joined to that number with ao (and). This works the same with a number in the thousands joined to a number less than a hundred. In other words, if an entire set is skipped in the progression tens, hundreds, thousands, etc, ao must be inserted to mark the gap.

5. 1000 - 1,000,000

Numbers in the thousands are generally constructed by preceding tengaa (1000) by the numbers from 1 - 999, followed by the lower numbers as above. Often however, ngaa is simply preceded by the root numeral prefix:

1000.	teuana tengaa/tengaa
2000.	uoua tengaa/uangaa
3000.	teniua tengaa/teningaa
4500.	aua tengaa nimabubua/angaa nimabubua
11650.	tebwi ma teuana tengaa onobubua nimabwi
200,791.	uabubua tengaa itibubua ruabwi ma teuana
541,802.	nimabubua abwi ma teuana tengaa wanibubua ao uoua

6. over 1,000,000

The current system for numbers in the millions uses the form te mirion, borrowed from the English. As with the thousands, it is usually preceded by the whole numbers, although sometimes by just the root prefixes:

1,000,000	te mirion/teuana te mirion
25,642,809	uabwi ma nimaua te mirion, onobubua abwi ma uoua tengaa, wanibubua ao ruaiua
300,000,000	tenibubua te mirion

A form borrowed from the English is also found for billion: te birian.

7. years

When the year is said, beginning with 1000 (1954), only tengaa is used, never teuana tengaa:

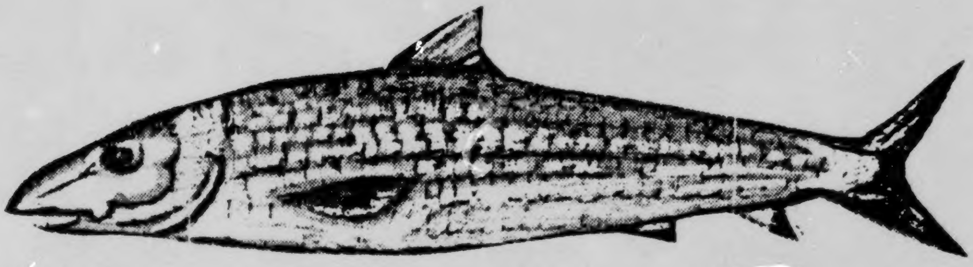
1066 tengaa ao onobwi ma onoua
1776 tengaa itibubua itibwi ma onoua
1888 tengaa wanibubua wanibwi ma waniua
1979 tengaa ruabubua itibwi ma ruaiua
2001 uangaa ao teuana

8. how many?

The question word for how many varies according to the category of the objects being questioned, taking the different numeral classifiers. The basic form is ira-, with the general classifier, 'iraua?'. (see page 41):

iraua am ririki?	how old are you?
uabwi ma nimaua	twenty-five

(Note: An older, native system of counting exists for numbers above 1,000 but has been almost completely replaced by the one outlined above. This earlier system has been included as an appendix.)



A. Read the following numbers in Kiribati:

7, 9, 1, 10, 3, 4, 6, 2, 8, 4, 5, 1, 9, 2, 8, 3, 7, 6, 5, 10

B. Translate into English:

1. teniua
2. uoua
3. nimaua
4. onoua
5. teuana
6. itiua
7. ruaiua
8. tebwina
9. aua
10. waniua
11. tebwi ma onoua
12. tebwi ma ruaiua
13. tebwi ma teuana
14. tebwi ma itiua
15. tebwi ma aua
16. tebwi ma waniua
17. uabwi
18. tebwi ma nimaua
19. tebwi ma teniua
20. tebwi ma uoua

C. Read the following numbers in Kiribati:

27, 48, 19, 6, 100, 98, 37, 45, 60, 75,
83, 7, 18, 25, 34, 42, 59, 66, 84, 98

D. Translate into English:

1. tebwi ma uoua
2. itiua
3. itibwi ma teuana
4. tebubua
5. wanibwi ma ruatua
6. nimabwi ma aua
7. tebubua tenibwi ma teniua
8. abwi ma nimaua
9. tenibwi ma waniua
10. uabwi ma onoua
11. onobwi ma itua
12. tebubua ao teuana
13. ruabwi ma teuana
14. tenibwi ma uoua
15. ruaiua
16. abwi ma waniua
17. onobwi ma aua
18. wanibwi ma itiua
19. tebwi ma teniua
20. uabwi ma ruaiua

E. Read the following numbers in Kiribati:

157, 382, 41, 7, 16, 351, 900, 1000, 1927, 823,
564, 12, 208, 1987, 654, 210, 321, 768, 1098, 18

F. Translate into English:

1. uabubua ao teniua
2. ruabubua abwi ma teniua
3. teuana tengaa ruabubua wanibwi ma itiua
4. wanibubua itibwi ma onoua
5. itibubua onobwi ma nimaua
6. onobubua nimabwi ma aua
7. nimabubua abwi ma teniua
8. abubua tenibwi ma uoua
9. tenibubua uabwi ma teuana
10. uabubua tebwina
11. tebubua
12. tebubua ao teuana
13. uabubua ao uoua
14. tenibubua ao teniua
15. abubua ao aua
16. nimabubua ao nimaua
17. onobubua ao onoua
18. itibubua ao itiua
19. teuana tengaa ao tebwi ma uoua
20. teuana tengaa ao itiua

G. Write out in Kiribati:

1. 2,167
2. 352
3. 48
4. 972
5. 682
6. 1,205
7. 1,007
8. 2,071
9. 195,376
10. 37,700,871
11. 396
12. 75
13. 83
14. 915
15. 569
16. 14
17. 138
18. 11,036
19. 1,678,987
20. 3,654,876

NUMBERS - PART 2 - CLASSIFIERS +

Lesson 17

1. -man

After -ua, the most important numeral classifier is -man, for animate things. It is used with people, animals, birds, insects, and most fish (except very large ones, which use -ai):

1.	temanna	
2.	uoman	
3.	teniman	
4.	aman	
5.	niiman	(not nimaman)
6.	onoman	
7.	itiman	
8.	waniman	
9.	ruaman	(not ruaiman)
10.	tengaun	(not tebwina)
15.	tengaun ma niiman	
17.	tengaun ma itiman	
20.	uangaun	(not uongaun)
30.	teningaun	
40.	angaun	
50.	nimangaun	
60.	onongaun	
70.	itingaun	
80.	waningaun	
90.	ruangaun	(not ruaingaun)
100.	tebubua	

2. ira-man

The question word for 'how many?' when referring to animate things uses the classifier -man: iraman:

Iraman aomata?	How many people?
Teniman (aomata).	Three.

3. Position of numerals

The numeral is generally placed directly before the plural of the noun:

tenibwi ma uoua booki
thirty-two books

tengaun ma itiman aomata
seventeen people

However, it is frequently used before the singular of the noun with the article, with the same meaning:

abwi ma itiua te ririki
forty-seven years

uangaun ma onoman te aiine
twenty-six women

Like any adjective, a numeral may follow the noun, linked by a relative pronoun:

nam'akaina aika teniua
three months

ataeinimm'aane aika angaun
forty boys

3a. te(ua)na

When te(ua)na is used after the noun, without the relative pronoun, it has the sense 'other', (indefinite):

te boki teuana
another book

te aiine temanna
another woman

When linked by the relative pronoun (usually are in the singular and ake in the plural) the sense is more definite:

te boki are teuana
the other book

te aiine are temanna
the other woman

4. tabe-

Tabe-, 'some', takes the numeral classifiers, and is similar to te(ua)na in its positional meanings (see above):

tabeman aiine	some women
aiine tabeman	(some) other women
aiine ake tabeman	the other women

4a. tatabe-

Repetition of the first syllable gives the sense 'each'; it is used with the numeral classifiers following 'n':

mm'aane n tatabeman
each man
booki n tatabeua
each book

For the meaning 'every', it is followed by 'nako':

mm'aane n tatabeman nako
every man
booki n tatabeua nako
every book

(Another form for 'each', which does not take the classifiers is 'ni katoa'; used most often in time expressions:

ni katoa bong	each day
ni katoa nam'akaina	each month

It can also be followed by 'nako' with the sense 'every':

ni katoa bongi nako	every day
ni katoa nam'akaina nako	every month

tabe- and tatabe- are frequently if not usually used with the suffix pronouns, with a similar sense:

mm'aane n tatabemaniia
each of the men
tatabemaniia
each of them
tabemaniira
some of us
tatabemaningkamii nako
every one of you

5. other classifiers

In addition to -ua and -man, there are a few other classifiers in common use:

-kai	used in counting trees, shrubs, land sections and fish-hooks
-ai	used for large fish, fingers, teeth, timbers, and other objects of an elongated shape (sticks, pencils, bottles, rulers, knives...)
-waa	used for counting all modes of transport: boats, canoes, cars, planes...
-baa	used with leaves, sheets of paper, flat objects

Besides these, quite a number of other classifiers may be found, but their use is more limited, and -ua may be used in their place without embarrassment. A relatively full list of these is included in the Appendix.

5a. Note on ten(i)- and wan(i)-

As noted in Lesson 1, forms which end in a nasal (in this case n, must take an inserted i before incompatible consonants, which is the case for ten- and wan-. However, when these forms appear before classifiers beginning with vowels other than i or U, that is, e, o, a, the final (i) is replaced by n, for example:

ten(i) + ai = tennai (3 elongated objects)
wan(i) + eria = wanneria (8 scoops)

When they appear before the vowels i or u, these vowels appear lengthened (or in the South, the i before u remains):

ten(i) + ung = tenuung (or teniung) (3 pandarus fruit)
wan(i) + iri = waniiri (8 individual pandanus fruits)

A. In the following sentences, replace the numeral with the correct Kiribati form and classifier (-ua or -man):

1. Iai 2 booki iaon te taibora.
   books table
2. A mm'akuri inanon te auti mm'aane aika 3.
   work men
3. Iai 3 te taibora inanon te ruu.
   tables room
4. A tia n roko 8 aiine.
   came women
5. I kabooa 7 te rawawata ni burawa.
   bought pounds flour
6. I nooriia 11 ataeinimm'aane.
   saw boys
7. E uoti 5 te ben nakon te auti.
   brought coconuts
8. Iai 1 te katam'a n au auti.
   cat
9. I konaa ni kangi 9 te aoranti.
   can eat oranges
10. A matuu 4 mooa iaon te auti.
    sleep chickens
11. Kab'akai 13 te moimoto!
    drop down drinking nuts
12. A nakonako 2 bureitiman n te kawai.
    walk policemen road
13. I kabooi 6 te aonti te ii.
    buy ounces tea
14. Iai 13 aomata n au auti.
    people
15. E kuukana 4 te mai te aiine.
    cook breadfruit
16. E karekei 17 te ika tamau.
    get fish my father
17. E kabooa 20 te rawaawata ni ika.
    buy pounds
18. Katiku 8 te taaraa iroun Tamam.
    give dollars your father
19. Anganai 7 te kiokio.
    give me chicks
20. E rarangai 8 kiie tinau.
    weave mats my mother

B. Form questions of the sentences in exercise A, using the correct form of iraua or iraman (how many?):

ex. 1. iraua te boki iaon te taibora?

C. Translate the following into Kiribati. Give alternatives where possible:

1. 4 boxes
2. 5 books
3. 6 people
4. 17 canoes
5. 8 dogs
6. 9 coconut trees
7. 15 ships
8. 3 cars
9. 20 rulers
10. 19 women
11. 5 cups
12. 9 coconuts
13. 11 leaves
14. 16 fish
15. 24 men
16. 23 oranges
17. 11 pencils
18. 2 tables
19. 12 boys
20. 1 boat

D. Replace the numeral in the following sentences by the correct form of tabe- (some):

1. Iai 3 aiine inanon te auti.
women house
2. Anganai 4 booki.
give me books
3. Iai 2 booti n te uaabu.
boats wharf
4. E uoti 5 been inanon te buua.
brings coconuts sack
5. Iai 3 iika inanon te nei.
fish pond
6. E anai 3 iibu man te auti.
takes toddy shells
7. I koroi 2 au karewe.
cut toddy
8. Iai 10 aomata n te m'aneaba.
people
9. E uoti 2 te b'aab'aa n aia.
brings baskets firewood
10. E kamai 3 te ika tinau.
cooks fish my mother
11. E nim 2 te kaen ni biia teuaarei.
drinks cans beer that man
12. Ti 3 ana baeki teuaarei.
only his bags
13. Iai 4 te auti n te kaawa arei.
houses village
14. E anganai 2 te bong ni mm'akuri.
gives me days work
15. I aki roko n te titooa 3 te tai.
come store times
16. I nim 2 te m'angko n ran.
drink cups water
17. Anganai 2 te baa ni beeba.
give me sheets of paper
18. I atai araia 3 aomata ikai.
know their names men here
19. A bua 4 te bentira man te kab'ate.
lost pencils cupboard
20. A koreaki 6 te nii ikekei.
cut coconut trees there

E. Replace the singular by a form for 'each' and 'every'. Give alternatives where possible:

ex: I anga te m'ane nakon te mm'aane.
I anga te m'ane nakoia mm'aane n tatabeman.
I anga te m'ane nakoia mm'aane n tatabemaniia nako.

1. I anga te mooi nakon te aiine.
   give drink woman
2. E anga te ruura nakon te teei.
   ruler child
3. E anga te bentira nakon te ataeinimm'aane.
   pencil boy
4. E orea te ataei.
   hit child
5. E taetae nakon te mm'aane.
   speaks man
6. E anga te boki nakon raona.
   book his friend
7. E kanoaa te m'angko.
   fills cup
8. E kaitiaka te auti.
   cleans house
9. E korea te nii.
   cuts coconut tree
10. E anga te am'arake nakon te beeki.
    food pig
11. E anga te b'ai-n-aoraki nakon te aoraki.
    medicine sick person
12. E anga te m'ane nakon natina.
    money his child
13. E karekea te ika ibukin natina.
    gets fish for
14. E anga te moimoto nakon te aoraki.
    give drinking nut sick person
15. E anga te m'ane nakon te aro.
    money church
16. E kabooa te boki ibukin tariu.
    buy book for my same sex sibling
17. E nako n akawa ibukin natina.
    goes fishing his child
18. E anga te beeba nakon te tia reirei.
    paper teacher
19. I tib'aa te am'arake nakon te moa.
    give out food chicken
20. I anga te m'ane nakon te kaawa.
    village

F. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. There are two cars on the street.
2. How many pens do you have there?
3. He gave money to each of his friends.
4. How many books are there on the table?
5. I drank four cups of coffee.
6. There are some women in the house.
7. He has some coconuts in his basket.
8. The doctor gave medicine to seven sick people.
9. He offered presents to each village he visited.
10. Please buy me three loaves of bread.

NUMBERS - PART 3 - ORDINALS +

Lesson 18

1. Ordinals

The ordinal numbers - first, second, third... - are formed by prefixing ka- to the cardinal numbers (except for 'first' -te moa):

1st	te moa
2nd	te kauoua
3rd	te kateniua
4th	te kaaua
17th	te katebwi ma itua
29th	te kauabwi ma ruaiua . . .

When used before the noun, it is linked by 'n':

te kaaman n aiine
the fourth woman

te moa ni boki
the first book

te kaangaun ma itiman n aomata
the seventeenth person

When it follows the noun, its construction parallels that of the cardinals - it is joined by the relative pronoun:

te bong ae te kateniua
the third day

te aomata are te kaitiman
the seventh person

2. used 'verbally'

Ordinals can be used verbally, meaning 'to do or occur a certain number of times':

I roko teniua te tai.
I came three times

can also be rendered:

I kateniua rokou.
I do three times my coming =

I came three times

Or again, using the classifier for 'times':

I katentai rokou.
I came three times.

3. Distributive

Repetition of the 'ka-' gives the distributive sense 'each':

Anganiia kakateniua te taaraa.
Give them each $3.

A na nako ni kakateniman iaoni waaia.
they will go three each in their canoes.

4. Fractions (m'akorokoro)

Except for 'half' (= iteran) fractions are constructed with ka- ____ -m'akoro, with the blank filled by the numeral prefix:

1/2	itera
2/3	uoua te katenim'akoro
3/4	teniua te kaam'akoro
4/5	aua te kanimam'akoro
5/16	nimaua te katebwi ma onoua ni m'akoro

Note that when the denominator is higher than ten, it is linked to ni m'akoro:

5/10 nimau te katebwina ni ma'koro

Fractions are linked to the nouns they modify by 'n', in which case the 'te' between the numerator and denominator is dropped.

iteran te m'ane	1/2 the money
uoua katenim'akoron te aomata	2/3 of the people
aua kanimam'akoron te m'angko	4/5 of the cups

Note that the classifiers are not used with fractions.

5. Approximation

To indicate 'about, odd', tabun is added after the numeral:

teningaun tabun te kai = over 30 sticks; 30 odd sticks

For 'almost, not quite', kaan is placed before the number:

e kaan tebubua = not quite 100, nearly 100

For greater emphasis on the exactness of the number, kaani koro is used in the same way:

e a kaani koro uabwi ma itua
almost (exactly) 27; not quite 27

6. Mathematics (wareb'ai)

addition: ikoti

uoua ikotia ma teniua $2 + 3$

result: reke; titeboo ma

uoua ikotia ma teniua rekena nimaua $2 + 3 = 5$
uoua ikotia ma teniua titeboo ma nimaua $2 + 3 = 5$

subtraction: anai

nimaua anai uoua rekena teniua $5 - 2 = 3$
" titeboo ma teniua $5 - 2 = 3$
" nikirana teniua $5 - 2 = 3$
(remainder)
uoua man nimaua iraua? $5 - 2 = 3$

multiplication: kamaiti

nimaua kamaitia ma uoua rekena tebwina $5 \times 2 = 10$

multiplication table = taibora ni kamaiti

division: karin, tibaia ni

tebwina karin a ma uoua titeboo ma nimaua $10 \div 2 = 5$
tibaia ni " otinakona "

Result in division can be expressed by titeboo ma (equals) or otinakona (comes out, its result).

In addition, result can be indicated by titeboo ma or rekena (gets, its getting).

In subtraction, either of these last two or nikirana (its remainder).

For multiplication, rekena or titeboo ma is used.

counting = wareb'ai, wareware
arithmetic = wareb'ai

A. Insert the ordinal corresponding to the sentence number before the noun in the following sentences: (don't forget the 'n' !)

ex: 3. Bon te aiine ae e karaoia.
Bon te kateniman n aiine ae e karaoia.

1. Anganai te boki.
give me book
2. I tangira te m'angko.
want cup
3. I tei n te titooa.
stand store
4. E bua te boki.
lost book
5. I wetea te ara.
call name
6. I maeka n te auti.
live house
7. E uruaki te m'aneka.
broken notch (on coconut tree)
8. I kani matuu n te ruu.
want sleep room
9. E na roko imwiin te wiiki.
come after week
10. Bon au bong aei ikai.
day here
11. E a roko te baoki.
come box
12. Bon ana Taabati aei n te oonaoraki.
Sunday hospital
13. Kauka te boki.
open book
14. E a boo te beero.
ring bell
15. E rietaata te auti.
high house
16. I anaa te ben.
take coconut
17. E maibi te kiraati.
broken glass
18. E buubura te moimoto.
big drinking nut
19. E b'aka te bunnimoa.
fall egg
20. Ti uota te batia.
bring parcel

B. Replace the following numbers by their ordinal forms (1st, 2nd, etc...):

1, 3, 7, 31, 22, 9, 11, 92, 45, 67, 4, 18, 53, 74, 82, 6,
2, 5, 36, 28, 10, 13, 91, 43, 71, 15, 55, 79, 88, 14, 17

C. Translate the following into Kiribati:

1. not quite 30 books
2. about 20 people
3. almost 15 days
4. 50 odd pencils
5. almost 15 coconuts
6. around 30 people
7. almost 100 boys
8. some 200 days
9. not quite 90 cups
10. about 36 dogs
11. almost 37 years
12. 30 odd pencils
13. around 200 women
14. some 50 coconut trees
15. not quite 45 tables
16. around 75 dollars
17. about 25 houses
18. 60 odd men
19. around 16 balls
20. nearly 70 canoes

D. Give the following fractions in Kiribati:

1/2, 2/3, 3/4, 3/5, 4/7, 1/10, 9/11, 7/13, 5/16, 4/17
11/13, 13/14, 8/15, 3/16, 11/30, 31/42, 9/20, 3/10, 1/5

E. Write out a translation of the following sentences:

1. Give me half your books.

2. John is the third boy.

3. There are almost 100 pencils on the table.

4. 2/3 of the dogs are dead.

5. I don't understand the fifth word.

6. I know about 40 songs.

7. 4/5 of the cups are broken.

8. The thirty-second canoe is blue.

9. Not quite 37 people came from Banaba.

10. I saw half the people.

PRONOUNS - INTRODUCTORY - SUMMARY

Lesson 19

Kiribati uses a number of sets of pronouns which must be mastered for a command of the language. Fortunately, their interrelationship is fairly transparent in most cases, and so familiarity with one provides a mnenomic clue to the others. These sets are dealt with individually in the following chapters, but they are presented here altogether, both as a reference and as a clue to their interrelationships.

	SINGULAR		PLURAL	
1. emphatic				
	ngai	me	ngaira	us
	ngkoe	you	ngkamii	you
	ngaia	him, her, it	ngaiia	them
2. subject				
	I, N	I	ti	we
	ko	you	kam	you
	e	he, she, it	a	they
3. object				
	-ai	me	-ira	us
	-ko	you	-ngkamii	you
	-a	him, her, it	-ia, i	them
4. possessive				
	au	my	ara	our
	am	your	amii	your
	ana	his, her, its	aia	their
5. possessive suffix				
	-u	my	-ra	our
	-m	your	-mii	your
	-na, -n	his, her, its	-ia	their

6. relative

ae	who, which	aika	who, which
ane	"	akana	"
are	"	ake	"
teuae	he who	uaaka	they who (masc.)
teuane	"	uaakana	"
teuare	"	uaake	"
neie	she who	naaka	they who (m & f)
neiene	"	naakana	"
neiere	"	naake	"
te bae	the thing	baika	the things which
te baene	which	baikana	"
te baere	"	baike	"

7. demonstrative

aei	this	aikai	these
aanne	that	akanne	those
aarei	that	akekei	those
teuaei	this man	uaakai	these men
teuaanne	that man	uaakanne	those men
teuaarei	that man	uaakekei	those men
neiei	this woman	naakai	these people
neienne	that woman	naakanne	those people
neierei	that woman	naakekei	those people
te baei	this thing	baikai	these things
te baenne	that thing	baikanne	those things
te baerei	that thing	baikekei	those things

You will notice a close relationship in the form of the pronouns with the adverbs of time and place:

a. relative time

ngkae	when
ngkana	"
ngke	"

b. relative place

ike	where

c. demonstrative time

ngkai	now
ngkanne	then
ngkekei	"

d. demonstrative place

ikai	here
ikanne	there
ikekei	"

A. Examine the emphatic pronouns of set one. What do they all have in common?

B. Compare these with the subject pronouns in set 2. What relationships can you find between the two sets?

C. Compare set 1 with set 3. Now what relationships do you find?

D. Compare sets 4 and 5, the independent and suffixed possessive pronouns. These have a very direct relationship. What is it?

E. Compare all the forms of the relative pronouns of set 6. What features do they share in common. Can you isolate the part which mean 'he', 'she', 'it'?

F. Do the same for the demonstratives, set 7. Do the forms recur here? What are the differences?

G. Compare the relatives and demonstratives, sets 6 and 7. What is the main difference?

H. Examine the adverbs of time and place. Can you find the relationship between these and the relative and demonstrative pronouns? Between the relative and demonstratives of time?

A recognition and understanding of the relationships between these various pronoun sets will help you to remember them, as well as provide clues as to how the language is structured. Try listing similar forms together to compare their differences. See if you can discover similar correspondences in other areas of the language.

SUBJECT PRONOUNS

Lesson 20

Almost all Kiribati sentences begin with a subject pronoun, which expresses the person (1st, 2nd, 3rd) and the number (singular, plural) of the subject:

	Singular		Plural	
1st	I, N	I	ti	we
2nd	ko	you	kam	you
3rd	e	he, she, it	a	they

Note that N is used in place of I, the first person singular subject pronoun ('I') when it precedes na (will) or nang (about to), the two future markers. All other times the form is I, which looks exactly like its English counterpart, except that it is pronounced ee, rhyming with 'me'. As in English, the first person singular pronoun is always capitalized, whether I or N. Remember also that the first person plural pronoun ti is pronounced like 'see'.

N na nako.	I will go.
I a roko.	I'm coming.
Ko kabooa te raiti.	You bought the rice.
E nakonako.	He's walking.
Ti orea te booro.	We hit the ball.
Kam wetea te kirii.	You (pl.) call the dog.
A takaakaro.	They are playing.

These subject pronouns are required even when there is an expressed subject noun or emphatic pronoun:

E nakonako teuaarei.	That man is walking.
A takaakaro ataeinimm'aane.	The boys are playing.

The subject pronoun always comes directly before the verb or verbal auxiliary. When the subject is expressed by a noun, the pronoun agrees with it completely as to person and number, almost as if the subject is repeated twice:

E nakonako teuaarei.	A takaakaro ataeinimm'aane.
he walks that man	they play boys

A. Insert the appropriate subject pronoun into the following (incomplete) sentences:

1. na roko ningaabong teuaarei.
will come tomorrow that man
2. na nako Betio ngai.
go to me
3. na tiku i Bairiki ngkoe.
stay you (sg.)
4. na nakon te m'aneaba aomata.
go to people
5. na roko te kaibuke ngkai.
come the ship now
6. na nako n akawa ngaira.
fishing us
7. na roko raora n tairiki.
our friends in the evening
8. na kabooa te kariki neierei.
but bread that woman
9. na nakon te titooa ngkamii.
store you (pl.)
10. tang te teei.
cries child
11. matuu ngai n te auti.
sleep me in the house
12. tam'arakea te nii ngkoe.
climb the coconut tree you (sg.)
13. oki tamau n akawa.
return my father from fishing
14. nako tariu n takaakaro.
go my same sex sibling play
15. buti te motokaa n te kawai.
goes car in the road
16. b'aka te ben iaon te auti.
falls the coconut on the house
17. anene ngaira.
sing us
18. takaakaro ngkamii.
play you (pl.)
19. biribiri naakekei iaon te bike.
run those people on the beach
20. roko naakai mai Tarawa.
come those people from Tarawa

B. Add subject pronouns and nouns to make complete sentences of the following:

1. na nako Tarawa
will go to Tarawa
2. a tia n roko
came
3. kabooi kariki
buy some bread
4. b'akara te auti
dirty the house
5. bootaki n te m'aneaba
gather in the maneaba
6. nako n akawa
go fishing
7. matuu n te ruu
sleep in the room
8. uaua i taari
swim in the sea
9. na tiku i Bairiki
will stay in Bairiki
10. na roko ni ingaabong
will come in the morning
11. b'aka
fall
12. kuukana te am'arake
cook the food
13. tekateka n te m'aneaba
sit in the maneaba
14. takaakaro ma te booro
play with the ball
15. tang
cry
16. anene
sing
17. biribiri
run
18. wareka te boki
read the book
19. kana te am'arake
eat the food
20. toka n te meeri nako Betio
take the ferry to Betio

C. Change the subject pronoun in the following sentences to that indicated:

1. I Ko na m'ananga n te Moanibong.
   you will leave Monday
2. you A nako ni matuu.
   they go to sleep
3. he Ko na kabooa te kariki.
   you will buy the bread
4. she Ti katea te auti.
   we build the house
5. we N na nako n akawa.
   I will go fishing.
6. you(p) E na itiia te ran n te m'anib'a.
   he will draw some water from the well
7. they E kana te ika.
   she eats the fish
8. she I matuu iaon te inaai.
   I'm sleeping on the mat
9. I Ko mataku n te m'aie.
   you watch the dance
10. you E na borau nako Nikunau.
    he will navigate to Nikunau
11. he Kam na oki n te Kauabong.
    you (p) will return Tuesday
12. he N na anganiko te ben.
    I will give you the coconut
13. we E na mm'akuri ni ingaabong.
    he will work in the morning
14. you(p) A na nakon te b'aatii.
    they will go to the party
15. they Kam na roko irouu nakon te tairiki.
    you (p) will come to me in the evening
16. it Ko b'aka man te b'aatika.
    you fell from the bicycle
17. I A na tebotebo i taari.
    they will wash in the sea
18. you A na matuu n te auti ni iruwa.
    they will sleep in the guest house
19. he Ko na riai ni moko.
    you will have to smoke
20. they Kam buokai ni katea au auti.
    you (p) help me build my house

D. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati (written):

1. I will go to the store.

   ____

2. She bought the rice.

   ____

3. They came yesterday.

   ____

4. It fell on the house.

   ____

5. He ate some bread.

   ____

6. We walked to the store.

   ____

7. I will see you tomorrow.

   ____

8. You drank tea.

   ____

9. I am writing a letter.

   ____

10. They sat in the maneaba.

    ____

EMPHATIC/INDEPENDENT PRONOUNS

Lesson 21

The emphatic or independent pronouns correspond in person and number to the subject pronouns, but are used for emphasis and one-word responses, never directly before the verb:

	Singular		Plural	
1st	ngai	me	ngaira	us
2nd	ngkoe	you	ngkamii	you
3rd	ngaia	him, her, it	ngaiia	them

I nako Tarawa ngai.	I went to Tarawa.
N na karaoia ngai.	I will do it.
Ko kabooa ngkoe?	Did you buy it?
E a tia n roko ngaia.	He already came.
Ti na nako ngaira.	We will go.
Kam karaoia ngkamii.	You did it.
A a tia n roko ngaiia.	They already came.

These are the forms that are used with numerals:

A na nako ngaiia teniman.	Those three will go.
Ti na tiku ngaira uoman.	We two will stay.

After the preposition ma (with):

E na roko ma ngkoe.	He will come with you.
A nakonako ma ngai.	They walked with me.

For one-word responses:

Antai ae e a roko? Ngai.	Who came? Me.
Antai Tiaon? Ngaia.	Who is John? Him.

As shown above, when it is the expressed subject of a sentence it always comes in final position, like any other subject noun.

LESSON 21

A. Insert the emphatic pronoun which agrees with the subject pronoun in the following sentences:

1. I nako Tarawa.
go to
2. Ko nako Beru.

3. E na karaoia.
do it
4. E na nako n akawa.
fishing
5. Kam na tiku.
stay
6. Ti na nako.
go
7. A na koroia.
cut it
8. N na kabooa.
buy it
9. Ko na anaa te ika.
take fish
10. E mooi n te miriki.
drink milk
11. I tiku n te auti.
stay house
12. Kam na uoti mai.
bring it here
13. Ti na uaua.
swim
14. A nangi nako.
about to go
15. N nangi matuu.
sleep
16. Ko riai n nako.
must
17. E riai ni motirawa.
rest
18. Kam nang am'arake.
eat
19. Ti riai n nako.
go
20. A nang kiba nako Abemama.
fly

B. Add subject and emphatic pronouns to make sentences of the following as indicated:

1.	I	a tia n nako went
2.	you	karaoia did it
3.	he	kanna ate it
4.	she	nimma drink it
5.	we	na tiku will stay
6.	they	tuai n nako not yet gone
7.	I	nangi matuu about to sleep
8.	you(p)	karabaa hide it
9.	she	ukoukora natina search for his child
10.	he	nangi nako Butaritari about to go to
11.	we	takaakaro n te booro play ball
12.	they	b'aatere dance
13.	you	na am'arake will eat
14.	I	tiku ikai stay here
15.	you(p)	kabutia make it go
16.	he	weweteai call me
17.	she	uota te teei bring the child
18.	we	kukurei (be) happy
19.	they	bootaki gather together
20.	you	karekea te am'arake get food

C. Change the pronouns in the following sentences to those indicated:

1. we I roko mai Bairiki ngai.
came from

2. they E karekea te am'arake ngaia.
got food

3. I Kam na mooi n te ran ngkamii.
drink water

4. you N nangi nako ngai.
about to go

5. she Ko kabooa te raiti ngkoe.
buy rice

6. he I akawa ngai.
fish

7. we A tekateka ngaiia.
sit

8. they Ti koroboki ngaira.
write

9. I E kukurei ngaia.
happy

10. you(p) A booti been ngaiia.
gather coconuts

11. we E biri nakon te titooa ngaia.
run to store

12. you Ti nakonako ngaira.
walk

13. he A takaakaro ngaiia.
play

14. they Ko anganai te ran ngkoe.
give me water

15. you(p) I orea te booro ngai.
hit ball

16. we A bootaki n te auti ngaiia.
gather house

17. she I uota te buua ngai.
bring bag

18. I E anganna kanana ngaia.
gave him his meal

19. we Kam a nakon te um'antabu ngkamii.
church

20. you A bubuti te m'ane ngaiia.
borrow money

D. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati. Use emphatic pronouns:

1. They bought some rice.

1. ______________________________

2. We saw the ship.

2. ______________________________

3. He came to the school.

3. ______________________________

4. I ate fish and coconut.

4. ______________________________

5. You caught some fish.

5. ______________________________

6. She cooked the food.

6. ______________________________

7. They played in the field.

7. ______________________________

8. We ran from the school.

8. ______________________________

9. He walked to the store.

9. ______________________________

10. I will go to Nikunau.

10. ______________________________

OBJECT PRONOUNS

Lesson 22

While Kiribati verbs keep the same form whatever their subject, they have a special form when they take an object, that is, when there is a noun which takes the action of the verb. This is called the transitive form of the verb, and it almost invariably ends in -a . For example:

I noora te boki.
I see the book.

Often the transitive form of a verb is formed by adding the causative prefix to a verb, ka-. However, this is not always the case. Sometimes there is simply a separate form for the verb in the transitive, such as the verb "to read," as follows:

I wareware.
I read.

I wareka te boki.
I read the book

When the object of a transitive verb is a pronoun, it is attached to the end of the transitive form of the verb as a suffix, and it is here that some problems arise. The forms of the object pronoun suffixes are:

	Singular	Plural
1st	ai	ira
2nd	ko	ngkamii
3rd	a	ia, i

Unfortunately for the learner, these forms do not attach to verbs all in the same way, and some difficulty will be encountered in learning the rules for their attachment to different verbs.

In the plural there is no great difficulty. The forms are attached to the stem of the transitive form of the verb by -i-. For example, the transitive form of the verb 'to see', noora, has the stem noor-. To this is added the -i- and then the form of the object pronoun:

STEM -i- PLURAL PRONOUN	
E noor-i-ira	He sees us
I noor-i-ngkamii	I see you (pl.)
Ti noor-i-ia	We see them (anim.)
A noor-i-i	They see them (inanim.)

You will note that there are two forms for the 3rd person plural object pronoun. One, -ia is used when the object is animate, when it is human or some kind of animal. The other -i is used when the object is inanimate. The pronoun is added whether the object is present or not.

Ti nooriia aomata.	We see them the people.
Ti nooriia.	We see them.
Ti noorii booki.	We see the books.
Ti noorii.	We see them.

While these rules will produce acceptable Kiribati forms, it should be noted that in actual practice there is a wide range of variation in the 3rd person plural inanimate forms which different speakers produce, so that when the object is not present, different speakers may use noori, noorii, nooriia, and when it is present, you will encounter variation between noori and noorii. Still if you stick with the pattern presented, you will be speaking good Kiribati.

In the singular there is greater variation in the manner of attaching the object pronoun to the verb stem. For verbs such as noora, which form the largest group, the pattern is as follows:

SET 1.	noor-a	see (+ noun object)
	noor-ai	see me
	noor-i-ko	see you
	noor-i-a	see him, her, it

The other major pattern is that followed by verbs such as kunea 'to find':

SET 2.	kune-a	find (+ noun object)
	kune-ai	find me
	kune-ko	find you
	kune-a	find him, her, it

You should note that the main difference between the two patterns is the absence of the -i- linker before the 2nd and 3rd person pronouns ko and a in the second set. A characteristic of many of the verbs which follow this pattern is that they are formed with the causative prefix ka-, although there are a number of exceptions.

Characteristic of both these sets, (set 1 and 2) is that they form their stems by removing the -a from their transitive forms.

To make matters more difficult, both set 1 and set 2 have verbs which form their transitive forms with the ending -ea which have a different linker to the object pronouns, -e-. These verbs form their stems by removing the -ea from the transitive forms.

For example, patterning generally like set 1:

taboraa-ea	insult (+ noun object)
taboraa-e-ai	insult me
taboraa-i-ko	insult you
taboraa-i-a	insult him, her, (it)

The only difference between this set and the first is the e in the 1st person singular, before ai and the form ending in ea before an expressed noun.

The set 2 verbs which end in -ea in the transitive form all begin with ka- and end in aa (before -ea). They pattern generally like set 2, except that there is a linker -e- for all forms:

katuuaa-ea	punish (+ noun object)
katuuaa-e-ai	punish me
katuuaa-e-ko	punish you
katuuaa-e-a	punish him, her, (it)

Another characteristic of many of the verbs which pattern in this way is that many of them end in the suffix -raa meaning roughly 'bad'.

While these are the main patterns, there are some verbs which still take slightly different ones, but generally these are minor variants of one of the above, and you will not go far wrong by sticking with these rules.

For set 1 verbs there are still two major cases which must be examined.

The first case is those verbs which have stems ending in a nasal, m, n, ng. While they pattern generally like set 1, there is variation in the formation of the 3rd person singular, and to a lesser extent, the 2nd person singular:

b'ain-a	use (a noun)
b'ain-ai	use me
b'ain-i-ko	use you
b'ain-n-a	use him, her, it
kanim'-a	attach to (a noun)
kanim'-ai	attach to me
kanim'-ko	attach to you
kanim-m'-a	attach to it
tuang-a	tell (a noun)
tuang-ai	tell me
tuang-ko	tell you
tuang-ng-a (tuangga)	tell him, her, (it)

You should notice that stems ending in n pattern just like set 1 except in the 3rd person singular, when an n replaces the expected i. Stems ending in m and ng operate in basically the same way, replacing the expected i in the 3rd person with themselves, that is, m or ng. However, in the 2nd person singular forms, the expected i does not appear. This should not be difficult to remember if you recall that m and ng are not incompatible with k and do not require an inserted i when they are adjacent.

The second case requiring note is for a small set of verbs patterning like the variation of set 1, all of which have similar form:

korea	to cut
kotea	to point at
onea	to change
orea	to hit
otea	to break

These verbs all pattern in a similar way, changing the e to o:

kore-a	cut (a noun)
kore-ai	cut me
koro-i-ko	cut you
koro-i-a	cut him, her, it
koro-i-ira	cut us
koro-i-ngkamii	cut you (pl.)
koro-i-ia, -i	cut them

The above then are the general patterns for the formation of transitive verbs with object pronouns. Their construction is one of the more difficult aspects of Kiribati word formation, especially as there is no simple way for establishing which transitive pattern a verb will fall into. They are perhaps most simply seen as falling into two main patterns, set 1 and set 2, each of which has a variant pattern where the forms which had no linker take -e- as a linker, and the two special patterns for set one, in which the stem ends in a nasal or is one of the five 'o_ea' verbs.

To assist you in finding which verbs fall into which sets, some lists of transitive verb forms are included. When you learn a new verb, you must also learn its transitive form, and this will generally give you the clue as to which set it will pattern with.

Note: The object suffix pronouns are not the forms which follow prepositions. For prepositions, the suffixed possessive pronouns are used. See lessons on prepositions and suffixed possessive pronouns.

Reflexives

Using the same object pronoun as subject pronoun has the effect of creating a reflexive:

N na tebok-ai	I will wash myself
Tai oro-i-ko	Don't hit yourself
Ti na katamaaroa-i-ira	We will adorn ourselves

Third person reflexives may be ambiguous, but the ambiguity can be removed by using ibon irouna / ibon irouia:

A na tiringiia	they're going to kill them
	they're going to kill themselves
A na tiringiia ibon irouia	they're going to kill themselves
E nooria	He saw him/himself
E nooria ibon irouna	He saw himself

LESSON 22

Set 1

aeka	recruit
aita	drag
akawaa	fish (for someone)
ataa	know
baairea	organize
buoka	help
buuta	call out
iangoa	think
ira	go with
kaaka	let go
kaaniia	go near
kaota	show
karaoa	do, fix
karebanaa	throw at
kataa	try
katea	build, stop, train
katoka	stop
kauta	awaken
kewea	lie
kooka	push
neboa	praise
niira	wrap
noora	see
okira	return (to)
reita	join
rinea	select
tabunea	put a spell on
tangira	love, want
taraa	look at
taromauria	worship
tamaa	join
wetea	call

Set 1a

beekaaea	hit
butiboorea	kick
butimaaea	go forth to meet
-korea	cut
-kotea	point at
nanoangaea*	have pity on
nanobuakaea*	fell bad towards
nib'araaea	be restless because of
-onea	change
-orea	hit
-otea	break
takaaruaea*	shout out about
tataboraaea	insult
tirobaaea	look admiringly at

Set 1 (nasals)

b'aina	use
buuna	marry
kabena	make hard
kabunga	cause to give birth
kamarana	polish
kamarurunga	make strong
kamauna	rub out
kana	eat
kanima	attach
kaona	fill up
karanga	flatter
karina	put in, let in
katanga	make cry
kena	dig
koroma	husk
nima	drink
reireina	teach
rengana	mix
riinga	touch
tuanga	tell

You may notice that all verbs which have transitive stems ending in a consonant fall into set 1. (*starred words in set 1a have variant forms in the 1st person singular: e-ai varying with -ai).

Set 2

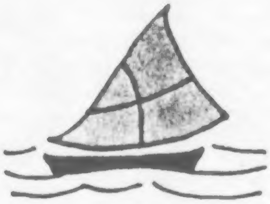
kabaraa	undo, release
kabooa	buy
kabaroa	pour out
kabuakakaa	lie about
kaburea	say someone's wrong
kaairuaa	mistake for someone
kamanea	trick
kamanoa	protect
kamatea	kill
kamatuua	make sleep
kaooa	invite, order something
kaootaa	make light, explain to
karaua	be careful with
karerea	make go fast
kariaa	expect
katakaakaroa	let someone play
kataua	try on, out
katiaa	let finish
katiia	shoot
katoaa	complete, pair with, make a set
katokaa	put, take with
katomaa	join
kauauaa	make swim
kaungaa	encourage
kawaetataa	rush
kinaa	recognize
kunea	find
tewea	call
tuoa	examine

Set 2a

kabeeuakoraaea*	cause to stagger as a load
kabitaraaea	mistake someone for, take in opposite way
kaboiraaea	make smell bad
kabutiraaea	cause disagreement among
kairuaaea	welcome as a guest
kainraaea	put out of position
kamaamaaea	make ashamed
kamaoraaea	make people hate someone
kam'araaea	cause filthiness, ugliness
kamaroaaea	make feel lonely
kanib'araaea	cause discomfort
kanikinaea*	mark someone, something
kaongoraaea	tell, inform
karongoaaea	make noise to someone
katuuaaea	punish
kaunraaea	cause disagreement among

Note the great preponderence of forms beginning with the causative marker ka- in set 2. Remember that in the 'a' sets, the stem is found be removing ea. (*starred forms lengthen the final (short) a of the stem before adding the linkers and pronouns).

The above lists provide a sample of verbs which pattern in certain ways. When you meet a verb which does not appear on these lists, you must discover which pattern it follows. It will be useful to prepare lists of these new words along with the above.



A. Translate the following into Kiribati (set 1):

1. You see me.
2. They like me.
3. He calls me.
4. She knows me.
5. Do you (pl.) want me?
6. I want you (sg.).
7. She helps you (sg.).
8. They point at you (sg.).
9. We look at you (sg).
10. It smells you (sg.).
11. She loves him.
12. I know him
13. They hate her.
14. You (sg.) think of her.
15. We saw her.
16. She pushed it.
17. He likes it.
18. They try it.
19. He saw us.
20. They call us.
21. You help us.
22. She thinks of us.
23. They give us food.
24. We want you (pl.).
25. He teaches you (pl.).
26. I know you (pl.).
27. Does he call you?
28. I lead them (an.).
29. You give them food.
30. He likes them (inan.).
31. You cut them (inan.).
32. She chooses them (an.).

B. Translate the following into Kiribati (set 2):

1. He finds me.
2. They mistake me.
3. She releases me.
4. I encourage you (sg.).
5. He tricked you (sg.).
6. We fed you (sg.).
7. They rush you to go.
8. I recognize her.
9. You make her sleep.
10. We let her play.
11. We expect him today.
12. They protected him.
13. You examine him.
14. She lies about him.
15. I bought it.
16. He put it on the table.
17. She undid it.
18. They completed it.
19. She feeds us.
20. He tricked us.
21. They recognize us.
22. I invite you (pl.).
23. She lies about you (pl.).
24. He examines you (pl.).
25. We cause you to sleep.
26. He released them (an.).
27. She fed them.
28. I encourage them.
29. She killed them.
30. We finish them (inan.).
31. He examines them (inan.).

C. Translate the following into Kiribati (nasals):

1. You make me cry.
2. She tells me the story.
3. He remembered me.
4. I flatter you.
5. They touch you.
6. Who told you that?
7. You make him strong.
8. We let him in.
9. She teaches him.
10. I flatter her.
11. He married her.
12. They remember her.
13. I use it.
14. He put it in.
15. You dig it.
16. You make us cry.
17. They make us strong.
18. He taught us.
19. She told you (pl.).
20. He flatters you (pl.).
21. We make them cry.
22. He makes them strong.
23. She remembers them.
24. You attach them (inan.).
25. He mixed them (inan.).
26. They polished them (inan.).

D. Replace the object noun in the following sentences with the correct form of the object pronoun:

1. I noora te kaibuke.
   see ship
2. Ti nooriia aomata.
   see people
3. E orea te b'atoro.
   hit bottle
4. A teboki raurau.
   wash plates
5. Ti katokaa te am'arake.
   puts food
6. I uringa tamau ma tinau.
   remember my father my mother
7. E tangirai ma raou.
   wants me my friend
8. Kam katanga te ataei.
   make cry child
9. Ti kabooi taiani kariki.
   buy some bread
10. I kuneko ma raom.
    find you your friend
11. E kam'anea Taom ma Ruka.
    trick Tom Luke
12. A kaira te unimm'aane.
    lead the old man
13. E kaon taian turam.
    fill some drums
14. E karina b'aina.
    put on his clothes
15. Ko kana te ika.
    eat fish
16. E kamatuua Tiaon ao Mere.
    make sleep
17. Ti butim'aaiko ma raom ngkai.
    go to meet you and your friend now
18. E reireina natiu.
    teach my child
19. Kam rengana te mooi.
    mix drink
20. E buuna te aiine ae e raoiroi.
    marry woman good

POSSESSION - PART 1 - INDEPENDENT PRONOUNS

Lesson 23

The system of possession in Kiribati is relatively complex and somewhat subtle. It is one of the distinctive characteristics of the language.

There are three basic markers of possession, a set of independent pronouns, which precede nouns, a set of corresponding suffixed pronouns, attached to the ends of nouns, and a linking possessive marker 'n'.

Independent Pronouns

This set operates most like the English possessive pronouns (my, your, his, her...), and is used in front of the possessed noun. They are only used when the possessor is animate. (1st and 2nd person pronouns are of course animate by nature.)

	Singular		Plural	
1st	au	my	ara	our
2nd	am	your	amii	your
3rd	ana	his, her	aia	their

They are used whether the possessor is explicitly expressed in the sentence or not:

au auti	my house
am boki	your book, books
ana kaa	his car
ana kaa Tiaon	John's car (his car John)

When the possessive pronouns are used, the articles 'te' or 'taian' are omitted (as in English, where we don't say "the my car") and plural lengthening does not occur. (Plurality is indicated by subject pronouns, verb endings, relative pronouns, etc.):

E buubura au auti.	It big my house.
A buubura au auti.	They big my houses.
I noora ara kamea.	I see our dog.
I noorii ara kamea.	I see (them) our dogs.

POSSESSION - PART 1 - INDEPENDENT PRONOUNS EXERCISES

LESSON 23

A. Replace the underlined noun with the indicated possessed nouns:

ex.: his 1. Bon te kaa. ... Bon ana kaa.

1. his Bon te taibora.
table
2. our Ti noora te boki.
see the book
3. her E taraa te auti.
look at the house
4. my E iria te kirii.
go with him the dog
5. their A kunei taiani boki.
find some books
6. your Ko kabuta te kaa.
drive the car
7. my I kunea te moko.
find the smoke
8. your(pl.) Kam kabooi taiani booro.
buy some balls
9. her Ti rin n te auti.
enter house
10. his E kakioa te moa.
chase chicken
11. our E kabuoki taian auti.
burn the houses
12. their E a mate te beeki.
dead pig
13. my E bua te biti.
lost knife
14. your Ko kabuaa te ibu.
lose toddy shell
15. her E karenakoa te b'aatika.
throw away bicycle
16. our E uruaki te rebwerebwe.
broken motorbike
17. their A nakon te auti.
go to house
18. my Aio te karo.
parents
19. your I aki roko n te bootaki.
come group
20. her I anganna te m'ane.
give him the money

EXERCISES POSSESSION - PART 1 - INDEPENDENT PRONOUNS

LESSON 23

B. Insert the correct possessive pronoun into the following sentences. (If more than one is possible, give more.):

1. Bon _____ kaa Tiaon.
car John
2. A toka mm'aane iaon ____ rebwerebwe.
ride men motorbikes
3. E ngaa _____ boki Meri?
where book Mary
4. Aikai ______ boki Tom ao Meri?
these books
5. Kam na uotimai _____ boki.
bring me
6. I okira _____ auti ni motirawa.
return rest
7. Aanga _____ beeba nakon te tia reirei.
give papers teacher
8. E aki reke _____ tai ni motirawa.
gotten rest time
9. E a bane ____ mm'akuri Rota.
finished work
10. A nako ngaiia nakon _____ auti.
go them
11. Ti na boobooti ______ boki ngaira aikai.
gather books we here
12. Ngkoe ae ko boni kabuaa _____ b'ai.
you lost things
13. Boni ngaia ae e katuka _____ buua.
him left bag
14. E orea _____ ataei neierei.
hit child that woman
15. A uaia n reke _____ beeba ni baati.
both got passing paper
16. Ko kabooa iaa _____ kunnikai Ruta?
buy where clothes
17. Boni ngai ae N na kabooa ____ boki.
I buy book
18. Ti nako ngaira ni karekei _____ moimoto.
get drinking nuts
19. E a tia n on _____ boki.
closed
20. E raoiroi riki ______ b'aatika.
better

C. Replace the underlined nouns with the indicated possessed nouns:

ex.: 1. John's I anaa te boki. = I anaa ana boki Tiaon.

1.	John's	I anaa te b'aatika. take bicycle
2.	the boy's	E bua te boki. lost book
3.	the girl's	E anaaki te tai ni bai. taken wrist watch
4.	the children's	Ti anai taiani kam. take some gum
5.	Mary's	I noora te beeki. see pig
6.	women's	Bon aei te bong. this day
7.	men's	Aei te tabo. this place
8.	Tom's	E urua te ruura. break ruler
9.	the teacher's	Kaoka te katii! give back gun
10.	the man's	E a tia te auti. finished
11.	the woman's	E bou te b'ara. new hat
12.	the child's	E mooi n te miriki. drink milk
13.	the old man's	I matuu n te ruu. sleep room
14.	Ruth's	I anaa te m'ane. take money
15.	the boy's	A toka iaon taiani b'aatika. ride bicycles
16.	the girl's	A boou taiani kunnikai. new clothes
17.	people's	Te m'aneaba bon te tabo. place
18.	Joe's	E bua te m'ane. lost money
19.	Paul's	E matuu te kirii. sleep dog
20.	Susie's	E un te katam'a. angry cat

D. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. We went to our house.

2. She gave him your books.

3. Your (pl.) kindness is great.

4. I saw her car in the street.

5. Where is their house?

6. I lost my knife.

7. Their clothes are pretty.

8. Our books are on the table.

9. His dog is asleep.

10. Their car is broken.

POSSESSION - PART 2 - SUFFIXED PRONOUNS

Lesson 24

Corresponding to the independent possessive pronouns is a set of pronouns which are suffixed or attached to the ends of nouns. These suffixed forms are used with a large class of nouns called inalienable nouns. The suffixed forms are similar to the independent forms except that they drop the initial 'a':

	Singular		Plural	
1st	-u	my	-ra	our
2nd	-m	your	-mii	your
3rd	-na, n	his, her, its	-ia	their

(Note: when these suffixes must be attached to nouns whose final consonant is incompatible, 'i' must be inserted. see page 12.)

The categories of inalienable nouns (which must take the suffixed forms) are:

1. Body parts, for example:

bai	arm, hand		
baiu	my arm	baira	our arm(s)
baim	your arm	baimii	your arm(s)
baina	his, her arm	baiia	their arm(s)

The only exception in this category is ari, eyebrow - au ari = my eyebrow, am ari = your eyebrow, etc.

2. Family relationships, for example:

tina	mother		
tinau	my mother	tinara	our mother(s)
tinam	your mother	tinamii	your mother(s)
tinana	his, her mother	tinaia	their mother(s)

An exception in this category - karo, parent: au karo = my parent(s), etc.

3. Intimate possessions, for example:

bee	loin cloth, lava-lava		
beeu	my loincloth	beera	our loincloth(s)
beem	your loincloth	beemii	your loincloth(s)
beena	his, her loincloth	beeia	their loincloth(s)

This category includes abstract intimate possessions as well, like life, death, smell, laugh, sleep, etc.

tang	cry		
tangiu	my cry	tangira	our cry, (cries)
tangim	your cry	tangimii	your cry
tangina	his, her cry	tangiia	their cry

Exceptions include auti, house; am'arake, food; kaa, car. Words which are borrowed into the language, as from English, auti, kaa, never take the suffixed forms of the possessive.

Included however are some things which at first may seem not to be 'intimate' possessions, without a deeper understanding of Kiribati culture: waa, canoe; aba, land; mweenga, home.

4. States of mind and feelings, for example:

nanokaawaki	sadness		
nanokaawakiu	my sadness	nanokaawakira	our sadness
nanokaawakim	your sadness	nanokaawakimii	your sadness
nanokaawakina	his, her sadness	nanokaawakiia	their sadness

5. Positional relationships

This category includes such things as on, above, beside, north of, the top of, etc. Words of this category are usually found in prepositional expressions, for example:

rariki	position beside	meang	north
irarikiu	beside me	i meangiu	north of me
irarikim	beside you	i meangim	north of you
etc.		etc.	

All prepositional expressions of the form i _____n drop the n before the possessive suffixes.

6. Nouns formed from verbs

By suffixing the possessive pronouns to verbs, including the passive forms, nouns are formed, for example:

nako	to go	tangiraki	to be loved
nakou	my going	tangirakira	the loving of us (our being loved)

In some cases, words may only exist with the possessive suffix attached:

kanana	his meal	nimau	my drink
karara	our meal	niman	your drink
	etc.		etc.

(There are no forms: te kana, te nima, meaning 'the meal, a drink.)

In a few cases, the same form may take the independent pronoun or suffixed pronoun, but the meanings are not the same:

b'ai	thing	ngake	underpants, crotch
am b'ai	your thing	au ngake	my underpants
b'aim	your dress	ngakeu	my crotch
mata	eye, lid	ran	water, juice
ana mata	its lids	ana ran	its water
matara	our eyes	ranna	its juice

Like the independent pronouns, the suffixes are used whether the possessor is expressed or not:

Bon ara boki (ngaira uoman).
It's our book (we two).

E ngaa mweengamiii (Tiaon ao Meri)?
Where is your house (John and Mary)?

However, in the 3rd person singular, there are two forms: one when the possessor is present (-n); one when the possessor is not present (-na).

wae	leg
Iraai waena?	How many legs has it/he?
Iraai waen te taibora?	How many legs has the table?

(Note that Iraua is used with the classifier -ai for elongated objects.)

While the 3rd person plural form for animate possessors does not change, when the expressed possessor is inanimate, the form used is 'n':

waeia aomata	people's legs
waen taibora	tables' legs

(see next lesson for possession by non-human possessors.)

POSSESSON - PART 2 - SUFFIXED PRONOUNS EXERCISES

LESSON 24

A. Add the indicated possessive pronouns to the following nouns:

	my	your (sg)	his, her, its
bai			
atuu			
waa			
matuu			
nati			
nanokaawaki			
kana			
ira			
ngara			

	our	your (pl)	their
kun			
wae			
mata			
mweenga			
aba			
tibu			
tama			
mate			
ingainga			
kukurei			

B. Add the indicated suffixed pronouns to the following prepositions:

	me	you	him, her, it
iao +			
irariki +			
i meang+			
ibuki +			
i maiaki +			
iaa +			

	us	you	them
iao +			
irariki +			
i meang +			
ibuki +			
i maiaki +			
iaa +			

C Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. My hand is hurt.

2. His mother went to Maiana.

3. The book is next to him.

4. We heard the children's cries.

5. There is nothing under me.

6. Their canoe is red.

7. We ate our meal in his house.

8. They are walking behind us.

9. Their eyes are blue.

10. There are flies on those people's meal.

POSSESSION - PART 3 - GENITIVE 'N'

Lesson 25

Besides the independent and suffixed possessive pronouns, which are used for human possessors, Kiribati employs a genitive particle 'n' for linking non-human nouns which have a kind of possessive relationship. As was mentioned in the lesson on possessive suffixes, this form is also used in the 3rd person singular when the possessor is expressed: waen Tiaon = John's leg.

It is more or less equivalent to the English 'of', or often " 's":

taubuki-n te auti	roof of the house
nuuka-n te karaanga	middle of river
tangi-n te kitaa	sound of the guitar
raanti-n te tautaeka	the government's launch

You will notice that there is no immediate way to distinguish whether the possessed form is singular or plural, for plural, lengthening does not occur with 'n'. Thus, 'boki n te reirei' could be either 'the school's book' or 'the school's books'. Other features of the sentence would mark plurality. If the possessor is plural, the 'te' is dropped:

taubuki-n auti	roofs of the houses
nuuka-n karaanga	middle of rivers
tangi-n kitaa	sounds of guitars
ranti-n tautaeka	governments' launches

This 'n' form, which is suffixed to the noun (like the possessive suffixes) may appear before a possessed noun as well:

taubukin ana auti	roof of his house
nuukan aia karaanga	middle of their river
tangin au kitaa	sound of my guitar
rantin amii tautaeka	your government's launch

Remember that when the possessor is human, the possessive pronouns are used, suffixed or independent depending on whether the noun is inalienable or not. (see previous lesson).

'n' is also used to link the parts of compound words, but the operation is somewhat different, and the 'n' is not suffixed. See lesson on compounding.

A. Use 'n' (and insert 'i' if necessary) to show the indicated relationship between the two nouns:

ex: te kamaama, te auti — the window of the house
te kamaaman te auti

1.	te booro, te reirei	the school's ball
2.	te auti, te mataroa	the door of the house
3.	te nuuka, te kaawa	the middle of the village
4.	te kirii, te mata	the color of the dog
5.	te burawa, te baeki	the bag of flour
6.	te kawai, te kaawa	the road of the village
7.	te mweenga, te rau	the house of peace
8.	te rau, te auti	the thatch of the house
9.	te auti, te oo	the wall of the house
10.	te uee, te aroka	the plant's flower
11.	te uaa, te kai	the fruit of the tree
12.	te kaa, te aobiti	the office's car
13.	te tautaeka, te booti	the government's boat
14.	te m'aneaba, te kaawa	the village's maneaba
15.	te anene, te taromauri	the song of prayer
16.	te aro, te boki	the book of religion
17.	te taetae, te aba	the language of the country
18.	te baba, te taeka	the word of the fool
19.	te rebwe, te baa	the sound of thunder
20.	te oota, te aba	the light of the world

B. Use 'n' (and insert 'i' where necessary) to show the indicated relationships between the two nouns:

1.	mataroa, auti	the houses' doors
2.	baa, booki	the leaves of the books
3.	ranga, kaa	the cars' wheels
4.	kai, wakaa	the trees' roots
5.	ram'a, auti	the houses' gables
6.	taibora, uee	the flowers of the tables
7.	kiing, mataroa	the keys of the doors
8.	matan, auti	the colors of the houses
9.	burae, atuu	the hair of the heads
10.	mata, baoki	the lids of the boxes
11.	tiib'ati, bai	the teapots' handles
12.	rua, b'ab'ai	the pits of b'ab'ai
13.	m'aanga, kai	the trees' branches
14.	kai, baa	the leaves of the trees
15.	b'ati, reirei	the schools' buses
16.	oota, taura	the light of the lamps
17.	baene, uaanikai	the baskets of fruits
18.	burae, mannikiba	the birds' feathers
19.	atuu, booki	the titles of the books
20.	kamaama, auti	the windows of the houses

C. Written. Translate the following into Kiribati:

1. The government's car was broken.

2. The mountains of Hawaii are beautiful.

3. We went to the port of Betio.

4. You can't see the tops of the houses.

5. The boy lost the school's book.

6. Please give me a glass of beer.

7. The cup of coffee is on the table.

8. We listened to 'the voice of Tarawa'.

9. The colony's ship arrived yesterday.

10. The fisherman's canoe is red and blue.

DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS

Lesson 26

Like English, Kiribati uses a set of demonstrative pronouns to indicate the relative location of nouns. In English there are only two degrees of distance, near and far: this and that. Kiribati distinguishes three degrees of distance:

aei	this (near me)
aanne	that (near you)
aarei	that (far from us)

Both English and Kiribati mark plurals:

aikai	these (near me)
akanne	those (near you)
akekei	those (far from us)

They are used following the noun:

te boki aei	this book (near me)
te boki aanne	that book (near you)
te boki aarei	that book (far from us)
booki aikai	these books (near me)
booki akanne	those books (near you)
booki akekei	those books (far from us)

Besides locative distance, these pronouns may indicate temporal (time) distance:

te bong aei	today (this day)
te bong aarei	that day (not today)

As in English, the demonstratives may be used to refer to that which has just been mentioned:

I noora te boki ae e uraura.	I see the red book.
E matenten te boki aanne.	That book is thick.

(Note: In actual practice you will be able to get along with just the two extremes, near me, and far from us, using the Kiribati more like English this/that.)

LESSON 26

A. Change the nouns in the following sentences to the demonstrative form indicated:

ex: this I wareka te boki.
I wareka te boki aei.

1. this I orea to booro.
hit ball
2. that (near) I kauka te mataroa.
open door
3. that (far) I kabooa te kariki.
buy bread
4. this I taua te boki.
hold book
5. that (near) I wareka te boki.
read
6. that (far) Ko anaa te boki.
take
7. this E karekea te ika.
get fish
8. that (near) A katea te auti.
build house
9. that (far) A toka n te kaa.
ride car
10. this E tang te aiine.
cry woman
11. that (near) E tang te aiine.

12. that (far) E tang te aiine.

13. this E kukurei te teei.
happy child
14. that (near) E un te teei.
angry
15. that (far) E anene te teei.
sings
16. this Ko kaitiaka te auti.
clean house
17. that (near) Ko mooi n te m'angko.
drink cup
18. that (far) Ko urua te boki.
tear
19. this E aoraki te aiine.
sick
20. that (far) E marurung te aiine.
healthy

B. Change the nouns in the following sentences to the indicated demonstrative forms:

1. these E kam'ai iika.
   cook fish
2. those (near) I uoti been.
   bring coconuts
3. those (far) E uoti been.
4. these E kabooi kariki.
   buy bread
5. those (near) Ti kaei beeki.
   chase pigs
6. those (far) E booti baene.
   gathered baskets
7. these I kanoai b'aketi.
   fill buckets
8. those (near) E tangiri booro.
   wants balls
9. those (far) E anai booro.
   takes
10. these E noori m'angko.
    see cups
11. those (near) E uoti nako buun.
    took away spoons
12. those (far) Ko uniki aroka.
    plant plants
13. these I tangiri aoranti.
    oranges
14. those (near) I tangiri b'anaanaa.
    bananas
15. those (far) A kang aaboro.
    eat apples
16. these Ti kauki booki.
    open books
17. those (near) Kam katei auti.
    build houses
18. those (far) A beenii auti.
    paint
19. these I takaakaro ma ataei.
    play children
20. those (far) I reireiniia ataei.
    teach

C. Change the demonstratives in the following sentences from this to that, these to those:

ex: E buubura te taibora aei. = E buubura te taibora aanne.
big table

1. E a reke te boki aei.
   gotten book
2. A boou auti aikai.
   new houses
3. E a mka te auti aei.
   rotten
4. A kukurei ataei aikai.
   happy children
5. Ti kooka te kaa aei.
   push
6. A bootaki unimm'aane aikai.
   gather old men
7. E kanoaa te b'aketi aei.
   fills bucket
8. A ngarengare aiine aikai.
   laugh women
9. Katuka te booro aei.
   leave
10. Kabooi mooa aikai.
    buy chickens
11. I unika te kai aei.
    plant tree
12. Ko korei kaai aikai.
    cut trees
13. E korea te ara aei.
    writes name
14. E koroboki n te boki aei.
    writes book
15. I ira te aiine aei.
    go with
16. Ko a nikiriia raom aikai.
    drop off your friends
17. I kiitana te aiine aei.
    leave woman
18. Anganna booki aikai.
    give him
19. E anganai te batia aei.
    gave me parcel
20. Kanakoi batia aikai ningaabong.
    send tomorrow

D. Written. Translate into Kiribati:

1. I bought this book.
2. She brought these books to school.
3. We visited that house.
4. He lived in that house there.
5. I don't like those boys.
6. I hate those women there.
7. She lives in this house.
8. I know that boy.
9. I spoke to that man there.
10. Mother gave me these pencils.
11. Throw those papers away.
12. Do not touch those books there.

PERSON DEMONSTRATIVES

Lesson 27

Kiribati has another set of demonstratives, parallel to the demonstrative pronouns in the previous chapter, which are used when referring only to people. They distinguish masculine and feminine in the singular, but masculine/general in the plural - that is, the general plural may describe a group of people, men or women.

teuaaei	this man
teuaanne	that man (near you)
teuaarei	that man (far from us)
neiei	this woman
neienne	that woman (near you)
neierei	that woman (far from us)
naakai	these people
naakanne	those people (near you)
naakekei	those people (far from us)
uaakai	these men
uaakanne	those men (near you)
uaakekei	those men (far from us)

These forms are not obligatory, but may be used in place of constructions like: te mm'aane aei (= teuaaei), te aiine aarei (= neierei), aomata akekei (= naakekei).

They are used in the same way as nouns with regard to position in the sentence:

E roko teuaarei.	That man came.
A nako naakekei.	Those people went.
E a un neierei.	This woman is angry.
A aera uaakanne?	What are those men doing?

Neuter Demonstratives

A parallel set of demonstratives exists for things. In the same manner as the person demonstratives, a form like: te b'ai aei (this thing) can be replaced by the demonstrative form: te baei.

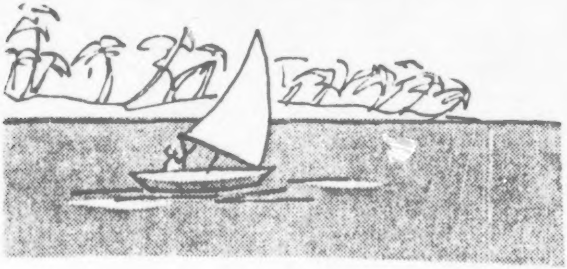
baei	this thing
baenne	that thing (near you)
baerei	that thing (far from us)
baikai	these things
baikanne	those things (near you)
baikekei	those things (far from us)

They are used in the same way as nouns, but while the singular article is optional, neither the plural article nor the possessive pronouns are used with these forms:

A ngaa baikanne?	Where are those things?
I noorii baikai.	I see these things.
Teraa te baenne?	What is that thing?
Anaii baikekei.	Take those things.

When it is necessary to use the possessive pronouns, the forms with the normal demonstrative pronouns may be used:

A ngaa ara b'ai akanne?	Where are those things of ours?
I noori ana b'ai aikai.	I see these things of his.



LESSON 27

A. Replace the noun in the following sentences by the indicated person demonstrative:

1.	this	E roko te mm'aane mai Tarawa. comes
2.	that	I kaaitiboo ma te mm'aane ikekei. meet there
3.	that (far)	E tiku te mm'aane ikekei. stays
4.	this	E a oki te mm'aane man te titooa. return store
5.	that	E akawa te mm'aane ngke e tairiki? fish last night
6.	that (far)	E aera ngkae tang te mm'aane? why cry
7.	this	Kaira te mm'aane nakon te auti. lead house
8.	that	Katuka te mm'aane iroura. leave with us
9.	that (far)	E rangi n aakoi te mm'aane. kind
10.	this	E aki kauiaa te b'ati te mm'aane. catch bus
11.	that	I buoka te aiine ni kuuka. help cook
12.	that (far)	E roko te aiine ngke e tairiki. come last night
13.	this	E anaaki ana m'ane te aiine. taken money
14.	that	Tai kuaa te aiine. fight
15.	that (far)	E wetea natina te aiine. call her child
16.	this	E aera te aiine ikanne? do what then
17.	that	E un te aiine irouu. angry with me
18.	that (far)	Ko na buoka te aiine. help
19.	this	Tuanga te aiine au taeka. tell my words
20.	that (far)	E marurung te aiine ni mm'akuri. healthy work

B. Replace the (plural) noun in the following sentences by the indicated person demonstrative:

1. these — A na nako aomata ningaabong.
   go tomorrow
2. those — A roko nningai aiine?
   when
3. those (far) — A tib'a roko ikai mm'aane ma aiine.
   just come here
4. these — I weteiia mm'aane ma aiine ngkoananoa.
   call them yesterday
5. those — I konaa n taetae teutana ma aomata?
   can speak a little
6. those (far) — A aki bati ni kukurei aiine ikekei.
   much happy there
7. these — E aki kukurei irouia aiine.
   with them
8. those — Naako ma ataei n taamnei.
   go children movie
9. those (far) — Tai manga takaakaro ma aomata.
   again play
10. these — A taningaiko aiine ikai.
    wait for you here
11. those — Ko a tia ni kaaitiboo ma mm'aane.
    met
12. those (far) — A roko nningai mm'aane?
13. these — I aki kinaia mm'aane?
    know them
14. those — Ko atai araia mm'aane?
    their names
15. those (far) — I kukurei ni kaaitiboo ma mm'aane.
16. these — Ti na kaaitiboo ma mm'aane n te aobiti.
    office
17. those — Mm'aane aika a rin n te auti.
    enter
18. those (far) — A kukurei mm'aane n okiri abaia.
    return to their land
19. these — Teraa ae a taku mm'aane?
    say
20. those (far) — N na am'arake ma mm'aane n tairiki.
    eat evening

C. Replace the word 'b'ai' (thing) in the following sentences by the demonstrative form indicated:

1.	that	Anganai te b'ai. give me
2.	this	I taua te b'ai inanoni baiu. hold in my hand
3.	that (far)	Ko uringa ngkoa te b'ai. remember before
4.	this	E aera te b'ai ikai? do what here
5.	that	Tai anaa te b'ai. take
6.	that (far)	Ngkoe ae ko urua te b'ai. break
7.	this	E anganai te b'ai tinau. my mother
8.	that	Ko uota mai iaa te b'ai? bring where
9.	that (far)	E kunea te b'ai teuaarei. find
10.	this	Ko karekea mai iaa te b'ai? get where
11.	these	Ko kareke b'aai man te titooa. store
12.	those	I aki konaa ni uring b'aai. can remember
13.	those (far)	A buaakaka b'aai. bad
14.	these	Tai kangi b'aai. eat
15.	those	A aki kakukurei b'aai. make happy
16.	those (far)	Antai ae e karaoi b'aai? do
17.	these	Tai manga riing b'aai. again touch
18.	those	A tia ni uotaki nako b'aai. finished brought
19.	those (far)	Uotii b'aai nakon tamam. your father
20.	these	Tai angan temanna b'aai. give anyone

D. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati (using person demonstratives):

1. That man went to the store.

   ____

2. Give me those things.

   ____

3. I don't know those men.

   ____

4. These people came from Tarawa.

   ____

5. Put those things over there on the table.

   ____

6. These men are the workmen.

   ____

7. That woman will feed the children.

   ____

8. Who are those people?

   ____

9. Give this thing to your son.

   ____

10. Where are those women going?

   ____

RELATIVE PRONOUNS

Lesson 28

The relative pronouns operate similarly to the demonstratives, in that they distinguish three degrees of relative distance, whether temporal or locational. However, no distinction is made as to animateness or inanimateness, so they may be appropriately rendered into English by 'who', 'which', or 'that' (or 'whom' as no case distinction is made either):

Singular		Plural
1st	ae	aika
2nd	ane	akana
3rd	are	ake

Except in the case of apposition (e.g. 'The man, the teacher, went to the house.' 'teacher' is in apposition to 'the man') the relative pronouns are always followed by the subject pronoun:

te tia mm'akuri ae e nako.
the worker who is going

aomata ake a aoraki
people who are sick (sick people) : far from us in time or place

aomata aika a aoraki
people who are sick : near me in time or place

Similarly when the noun preceding the relative pronoun is the object of the action:

te boki are I nooria.
the book which I see

te b'ai are ko tangiria
the thing that you want

In this situation, the object pronoun suffix is attached to the verb (nooria, tangiria).

As with the demonstratives, the second person forms may be used to indicate definiteness:

te ranti ae e butim'aaka
a launch which is fast (a fast launch)

te ranti ane e butim'aaka
the launch which is fast (the fast launch)

Adjectives

Adjectives are constructed as if they were relative clauses: the big ship = the ship which is big (te kaibuke ae e buubura.) These will be described more fully in the lesson following.

Apposition

As mentioned above, relative pronouns are used with appositive constructions without a following subject pronoun:

tamana ae te tia moti
his father (who is) the judge

ara kaa ae te Datsun
our car (which is) the Datsun

te kaibuke ae te Naareau
the ship (which is) the Naareau

Person Demonstratives + Relative Pronouns

When the person demonstratives (lesson 27) are followed by a relative pronoun, a contracted form is used:

teuaaei ae	=	teuaae	this man who
teuaanne ane	=	teuaane	that man who
teuaarei are	=	teuaare	that man who (far)
neiei ae	=	neie	this woman who
neienne ane	=	neiene	that woman who
neierei are	=	neiere	that woman who (far)
naakai aika	=	naaka	these people who
naakanne akana	=	naakana	those people who
naakekei ake	=	naake	those people who (far)
uaakai aika	=	uaaka	those men who
uaakanne akana	=	uaakana	those men who
uaakekei ake	=	uaake	those men who (far)

LESSON 28

A. Give contracted forms of the following pairs of sentences by using relative pronouns:

ex: I noora te mm'aane. E nakonako te mm'aane. =
I noora te mm'aane are e nakonako.

E a roko te unimm'aane. Bon te tia mm'akuri.
E a roko te unimm'aane are te tia mm'akuri.

1. E a kukurei te teei. E rawaawata nanon te teei.
happy child was sad

2. E routa ana b'ab'ai. E buubura te b'ab'ai.
pull out big

3. E maeka n te auti. E a kani b'aka te auti.
lives almost fall

4. E marurung te mm'aane. Bon te tia reirei.
healthy teacher

5. Aei te ben. E b'aka iaon te auti.
coconut fall

6. Tuangai te b'ai. Ko tangira te b'ai.
tell me thing want

7. Anganai te boki. E mena irarikim te boki.
give me book is beside you

8. I ongo te b'anaa. E maaraara n rau te b'anaa.
hear voice soft and calm

9. E a manga reke te tai. E bua te tai.
again gotten time lost

10. I noora tamana. Bon te tia akawa tamana.
see his father fisherman

11. E na anganai te boki. E mena te boki n te ruu.
give me book is room

12. E a tia n nako te aiine. E roko te aiine ngkoananoa.
gone came yesterday

B. Contract the following pairs of sentences using relative pronouns, as in the previous exercise. Use the plural forms:

1. A kaotinakoaki ataei. A iowaawa ataei.
   sent out children naughty
2. E anganai booki. A mena booki iaon te taibora.
   gives me books are on table
3. Ti takaakaro ma ataei. A roko ataei mai Bonriki.
   play come from
4. I nooriia mm'aane. A tekateka mm'aane n te m'aneaba.
   see men sit
5. A kauntaeka aiine. A mena aiine irarikin te kawai.
   quarrel beside road
6. Ti maeka n auti. A mena auti imaeaon te kawai.
   live west of
7. A kauki baoki. A roko baoki mai Hawaii.
   open boxes come from
8. Ti kawari reirei. Bon reirein te tautaeka.
   visit schools government
9. Kam na koroi aroka. A riki aroka irarikin te auti.
   cut plants grow beside house
10. A roko mm'aane. Boni kaaini Betio mm'aane.
    people of
11. A kukurei aiine. Iai natiia aiine.
    happy women their children

C. Translate the following phrases into Kiribati:

1. the girl who is short
2. the book which you sent
3. the man who is eating
4. the pen which you lost
5. the woman who was crying
6. the canoe that was broken
7. the food that you bought
8. the boy who is naughty
9. the bicycle which has three wheels
10. the book that you read
11. the men who are working
12. the friends who were in school
13. the fish that was caught
14. the girl whom you punish
15. the car that you drive
16. the food which you eat
17. the sum that you make wrong
18. the ground that you walk on
19. the man whom I saw
20. the woman who is going

D. Give contracted forms of the following pairs of sentences using person demonstratives and relative pronouns:

ex: E nako man te titooa teuaarei. E nakonako teuaarei. =
E naku man te titooa teuaare e nakonako.

1. E aki toki tangin teuaaei. E uouotaki teuaaei.
stop crying carried
2. E a am'arake teuaanne. E tangi teuaanne.
eat cry
3. Antai aran neienne? E uota te teei neienne.
name bring child
4. E roko nningai neierei? E tekateka n te auti neierei.
come when sit house
5. Kaira neiei. E mataki neiei.
guide blind
6. E a nako neierei. E tangi natin neierei.
go cry her child
7. E nanokaawaki neienne. E kabuaa te boki neienne.
sad lose book
8. E a roko teuaaei. Bon te tia reirei teuaaei.
come teacher
9. Bon tamau teuaarei. E akawa n te waa teuaarei.
my father fish canoe
10. Bon raou teuaanne. E kani iriko teuaanne.
my friend want meat
11. Bon m'aaneu neiei. E tang neiei.
my opp sex sib. cry
12. E na nakomai nningai neienne? E a tib'a roko mai
come here when just come
Banaba neienne.
13. Ti nooriia raakai. A teitei iaon te uaabu.
see them stand wharf
14. E weteia naakanne. A nakon ana auti naakanne.
call them go to house
15. A roko ikai naakekei. A roko mai Beru naakekei.
come here
16. I katuaiia uaakai. A aki ongotaeka uaakai.
punish not obey
17. Teraa aroia uaakanne? A iowawa uaakanne.
what to do with naughty
18. A nako uaakekei. A matuu ikai ngke e tairiki uaakekei.
go sleep here last night

E. Translate the following into Kiribati. (Written)

1. Who is the man who is walking on the road?

____

2. This is the woman who lost her book.

____

3. I know that man who ate the fish.

____

4. Where is the woman who ran away?

____

5. Do you know those people who were absent?

____

6. This is the village of those men who were sick.

____

7. Is it John's car which is red?

____

8. I see two canoes that have no sail.

____

9. The canoe that has no paddle is on the beach.

____

10. Is that the man who doesn't know how to fish?

____

11. His mother is the woman who can't cook.

____

12. Here comes that woman who talks too much.

____

ADJECTIVES

Lesson 29

Adjectives in Kiribati function in basically the same manner as intransitive verbs, and for the most part are invariable in form with regard to singular and plural.

Just like intransitive verbs, they function in sentences as the predicate:

E buubura te auti.	A birbiri ataei.
it big the house	they ran children
The house is big.	The children ran.

A very small number of adjectives have slightly different forms when used in the plural:

Singular	Plural	
ab'aab'aki	ab'ab'aki	big
rietaata	ririeta	tall
anaanau	ananau	long
raoiroi	raraoi	good
buaakaka	bubuaka	bad

E ab'aab'aki te auti.	The house is big.
A ab'ab'aki taian auti.	The houses are big.
E raoiroi te biti.	A knife is good.
A raraoi biiti.	Knives are good.

When the adjective is used to modify a noun, whether the subject or object of the sentence, the construction is identical to that of a relative clause:

Te waa ae e butim'aaka.	aomata aika a akoi
a canoe which is fast =	people who are kind =
a fast canoe	kind people

E ranga te waa ae e butim'aaka.
The fast canoe capsized.

E karab'aiia aomata aika a akoi te koowana.
he thanked them people who they kind the governor

The governor thanked the kind people.

RELATED INFORMATION FOR OPTIONAL STUDY*

There are three cases relating to adjectives and relative pronouns in which the relative pronoun is optional, or if used, is not followed by the subject pronoun.

The first, apposition, was mentioned in the preceding lesson:

E a roko natina (are) te tia mm'akuri.
His son, the workman, came.

No subject pronoun follows the relative pronoun, and the relative pronoun itself is optional.

A similar situation holds when the adjective is the material of which the noun is made:

te kaibuke (ae) te biti
the steel ship

te m'angko (are) te kiraati
the glass cup

te taibora (ae) te kai
the wooden table

te raurau (ae) te beeba
the paper plate

Again, the relative pronoun is optional, and if used is not followed by a subject pronoun.

The third case operates similarly, and is used with locational prepositions:

te boki are ieta	the book on top
booki akana ieta	books on top
te mm'aane are irarikina	the man beside him
mm'aane aika irarikiu	the men beside me

In this case however, the relative pronoun is not optional but required, though once again the subject pronoun is omitted. Before a locational verb though, the subject pronoun reappears:

te boki are e mena ieta	the book (which is located) on top
mm'aane aika a mena irarikiu	men (who are) beside me

---

*There are no exercises accompanying this section.

A. Construct sentences using the following nouns and adjectives:

ex: buubura + te auti = E buubura te auti.

1. buubura + te kaa
big car
2. uareereke + te auti
little house
3. uraura + te mm'aane
red man
4. mainaina + te tia reirei
white teacher
5. roroo + booki
black book
6. rietaata + te nii
tall coconut tree
7. kimototo + aomata
short people
8. marurung + te beeki
healthy pig
9. m'aitoro + te ran
cold water
10. kabuebue + raubaba
hot plank
11. anaanau + te rongorongo
long news
12. rawaawata + te ika
heavy fish
13. tamaaroa + b'aara
pretty hats
14. buaakaka + kirii
bad dogs
15. butim'aaka + te kaa
fast car
16. kakang + te biti
sharp knife
17. kukurei + ataei
happy children
18. matenten + te boki
thick book
19. maraurau + te uninga
soft pillow
20. raababa + te kie
wide mat

B. Change the following sentences into corresponding noun phrases:

ex: E kukurei te tama. = Te tama ae e kukurei.
A raababa kawai. = Kawai aika a raababa.

1. E roroo te boki.
   black book
2. A kukurei aomata.
   happy people
3. E anaanau te kawai.
   long road
4. A marurung mooa.
   healthy chickens
5. E aoraki te unimm'aane.
   ill old man
6. A uareereke iika.
   little fish
7. E raoi taari.
   calm sea
8. A buubura naao.
   big waves
9. E ora taari.
   goes out the sea
10. A maimai ataei.
    wet children
11. E mauu te kunnikai.
    dry clothes
12. A beebete naano.
    easy minds
13. E raababa te kainiwene.
    wide bed
14. A ongotaeka ataei.
    obedient children
15. E rawaawata te tina.
    heavy mother
16. A akoi aomata.
    kind people
17. E kimototo te tai.
    short time
18. A ririeta kaai.
    tall trees
19. E beebete te baoki.
    light box
20. A kakanoa b'aketi.
    full buckets

C. Combine the following sentences into a single sentence:

ex: E biribiri te ataei. E ab'aab'aki te ataei. =
E biribiri te ataei ae e ab'aab'aki

1. E tang te aiine. E nanokaawaki te aiine.
cries woman sad
2. E kangkang te ika. E nenea te ika.
delicious fish oily
3. E b'aka te auti. E mka te auti.
fall house rotten
4. E maoto te nii. E rietaata te nii.
breaks coconut tree tall
5. E aki konaa ni biri te mm'aane. E buubura te mm'aane.
not can run man big
6. E kabooa te boki. E mawaawa te boki.
buys book green
7. E kana te am'arake. E kangkang te am'arake.
eats food delicious
8. E nima te miriki. E kangkang te miriki.
drink milk
9. E anaa te boki. E mena te boki iaon te taibora.
takes book is on table
10. E rin n te auti. E rokanaki te auti.
enters house locked
11. E kabooa te kariki. E booraoi te kariki.
buys bread cheap
12. E biri te kirii. E uraura te kirii.
runs dog red
13. E roko te aomata. E boou te aomata.
comes person new
14. E kaukau te kirii. E noora te aomata te kirii.
barks dog sees person
15. E a bua te boki. E raoiroi te boki.
lost book good
16. E matuu te aiine. E kua te aiine.
sleeps woman tired
17. E ngare te teei. E kukurei te teei.
laughs child happy
18. E buti te kaa. E boou te kaa.
goes car new
19. E a roko te kaibuke. E uota te kaakoo te kaibuke.
come ship brings cargo
20. E matuu te mm'aane. E taningaroti te mm'aane.
sleeps man lazy

D. Written. Form sentences from the following sets of words:

ex: biribiri ab'aab'aki te ataei =
E biribiri te ataei ae e ab'aab'aki.

(add the necessary subject pronouns, relative pronouns, etc.)

1. nakonako marika te aiine
2. mooi taka te mm'aane
3. un uraura te kirii
4. matuu manana te katam'a
5. nako buubura te kaibuke
6. b'aro m'aitoro te ran
7. b'aka rietaata te nii
8. b'aro buubura te nao
9. tangira uraura te moimoto
10. angai bati te am'arake

ADJECTIVES - PART 2 - COMPARISON

Lesson 30

Intensification of adjectives can be accomplished by the addition of bati n(i) (much, many), or rangi n(i) (very), or the combination of the two of them, rangi ni bati n(i) (very much/many of..):

E bati n rietaata te nii.
The coconut tree is very tall.

E rangi n rietaata te nii.
The coconut tree is very tall.

E rangi ni bati n rietaata te nii.
The coconut tree is very very tall.

The comparative is formed by the addition of riki (more):

raoiroi	good	buubura	big
raoiroi riki	better	buubura riki	bigger

When compared with something else, 'more than, -er than', nakon precedes the noun which it is being compared to:

E waetata riki te kaa nakon te b'aatika.
it fast more a car than a bicycle

A car is faster than a bicycle.

E buubura riki te kamea nakon te katam'a.

A dog is bigger than a cat.

The superlative form of adjectives is constructed using moan te (first of the) before the adjective:

moan te buubura = the biggest
moan te uraura = the reddest

Note however that this construction is also used when the quality is not necessarily the "-est", but is certainly "very, quite":

Bon te moan raoiroi te kaa aei.
This is an excellent car.

ADJECTIVES - PART 2 - COMPARISON GRAMMAR

LESSON 30

Equality is expressed by using 'titeboo ma' (the same as) or 'bootau ma' (equal to), with the adjective functioning as a possessed noun (taking the possessive pronoun suffix):

E titeboo butim'aakan te waa aei ma aarei.
its the same speed of canoe this as that

This canoe is just as fast as that one.

E aki bootau rietaatan au auti ma te auti aei.
it not equal tallness of my house as the house this.

My house is not as tall as this one.

To express slightly less than equality, 'titeboo ma' can be preceded by 'kaan' (nearly):

kaan titeboo ma = nearly the same as

E kaan titeboo rietaatan au auti ma te auti aei.
My house is nearly the same height as this one.

For greater intensity of comparison, a construction using 'korakora riki nakon' (stronger than) with the adjective functioning as a possessed noun can be used:

E kabuebue riki Tuurai nakon Tebetemba.
July is hotter than September.

E korakora riki kabuebuen Tuurai nakon Tebetemba.
it stronger heat of July than September

July is (really) hotter than September.

An even stronger form can be used in the same way - 'kamaamate riki nakon' ("killing", "murderous"):

E kamaamate riki kabuebuen Tuurai nakon Tebetemba.
July is really much hotter than September.

Summary:

rietaata	tall (sg)
ririeta	tall (pl)
bati n rietaata	very tall
rangi n rietaata	very tall
rangi ni bati n rietaata	very very tall
titeboo rietaatan ... ma	the same tallness as
bootau rietaatan ... ma	equally as tall as
kaan titeboo rietaatan ... ma	nearly as tall as
rietaata riki	taller
rietaata riki ... nakon	taller than
korakora riki rietaatan ... nakon	really taller than
kamaamate riki rietaatan ... nakon	really much taller than
moan te rietaata	tallest

Note:

Some adjectives have special intensive forms (very) composed with particular suffixes. These forms must be learned individually. However, constructions using bati or rangi can be used with equal understanding:

mainaina	white	takamainaina
buubura	big	buuburatautau
ab'aab'aki	big	ab'akei
mmanii	thin	mmanibwerebwere
roroo	black	rorootongitong
raroa	far	raroakinokino
kaan	near	kaanroaroa
rinano	low	rinanobarabara

A few other forms may be encountered as well, but these are among the most common.

A. Use bati and/or rangi to intensify the adjectives in the following sentences:

ex: E buubura te auti. = E rangi ni buubura te auti.
E matoatoa te mm'akuri. = E bati ni matoatoa te mm'akuri.

1. E buubura te ika.
   big fish
2. E butim'aaka te mooto.
   fast outboard
3. E kangkang te bun.
   tasty k.o. shellfish
4. E marika te beeki.
   fat pig
5. E m'aitoro ikai.
   cold here
6. E tangiraoi te katangitang.
   pleasing music
7. E beebete uotau.
   light my load
8. E maraki waeu.
   hurt my leg
9. E maranran te kawai.
   slippery road
10. E m'aiti te ben.
    many coconuts
11. E kabuebue te teei.
    hot child
12. E marurung raoi natiu.
    very healthy my child
13. E rietaata te auti.
    tall house
14. E buaakaka te taningaroti.
    bad laziness
15. E kekeiaki m'aaka Tiaon.
    study hard
16. E nanobaba Tawita.
    stupid
17. E kukurei tinau irouu.
    happy with me
18. E marurung tamau n akawa.
    industrious to fish
19. E matenten te boki.
    thick book
20. E mmanii te beeba.
    thin paper

B. Use the comparative form of the adjective to construct sentences of the following sets of words:

ex. buubura te kaibuke te waa =
E buubura riki te kaibuke nakon te waa.

1.	buubura	te m'aneaba	te auti
	big		
2.	uraura	te aaboro	te aoranti
	red	apple	orange
3.	butim'aaka	te waanikiba	te kaibuke
	fast	airplane	ship
4.	rietaata	te nii	te kaina
	tall	coconut tree	pandanus tree
5.	buubura	Eneri	Toma
6.	anaanau	au kora	am kora
	long	my string	
7.	m'aiti	am m'ane	au m'ane
	much	your money	
8.	m'aitoro	Hawaii	Kiribati
	cold		
9.	materaoi	te moa	te ika
	cheap	chicken	fish
10.	raababa	te kawai ikai	are i Tarawa
	wide	this road	that at Tarawa
11	kabuebue	Kiribati	Hawaii
	hot		
12.	ab'aab'aki	Tabiteuea	Tarawa
	big		
13	uareereke	Tamana	Arorae
	small		
14.	maiu	Butaritari	Nonouti
	fertile		
15.	nenea	te baneawa	te aua
	fatty	milk fish	mullet
16.	kangkang	te karewe	te tioka
	delicious	toddy	sugar
17.	matenten	te Baibara	te boki n anene
	thick	Bible	song book
18.	beebete	te buraeniman	te beeba
	light	feather	paper
19.	kukurei	te raarikin	te kaub'ai
	happy	pauper	rich man
20.	rebwem'aaka	te boom	te katii
	explosive	bomb	gun

C. Change the following sentences so that the underlined word is modified by the superlative form of the adjective:

ex: E rinea te kamea. buubura =
E rinea te kamea ae e moan te buubura.
choose dog

1. E tokanikai te waa. butim'aaka
win canoe fast
2. E kabooa te kaa. matebuaka.
buy car expensive
3. E noora te nii. rietaata.
see coconut tree tall
4. E mooi n te biia. matoatoa
drink beer strong
5. E katekea te ika. buubura
catch fish big
6. E tokanikai te teinimm'aane. birim'aaka
win boy fast
7. E moanna te teinnaiine. wanawana
first girl smart
8. E kabane te waa. butimwere
lose canoe slow
9. E taatangiraki te aomata. nimamannei
loved person meek
10. E tituaraoi te aomata. akoi
generous kind
11. E aki kabooaki te ika. buaakaka
bought bad
12. E nanokaawaki te aomata. iowaawa
sad naughty
13. E kamoamoaa te teinnaiine. tikiraoi
proud girl pretty
14. A bati kaa inanon te kawai. raababa
many cars in street wide
15. E maeka n te auti ae e buubura te aomata. kaub'ai.
live house big person rich
16. I kabooa te kaa. materaoi
buy car cheap
17. I karekea au moa. unuun
get chicken angry
18. E maeka te raarikin n te auti. baareka
live pauper house dirty
19. I uota te buua. beebete
carry bag light
20. I kana te am'arake. kangkang
eat food delicious

D. Change the following sentences from the comparative form into those of equality (titeboo ma, bootau ma):

ex: E ananau riki te bentira nakon te been. =
E titeboo ananaun te bentira ma te been.
length pencil pen
E matoatoa riki te atiibu nakon te biti. =
E bootau matoatoan te atibu ma te biti.
hardness stone steel

1. E unuun riki te kirii nakon te katam'a.
fierce dog cat
2. E kangkang riki te ika nakon te moa.
tasty fish chicken
3. E rietaata riki te nii nakon te mai.
tall coconut breadfruit
4. E kakang riki te mariro nakon te biti.
sharp razor knife
5. E boongana riki te m'ane nakon te ben.
useful money coconut
6. E rawaawata riki te raiti nakon te burawa.
heavy rice flour
7. E butim'aaka riki te waa nakon te raanti.
fast canoe launch
8. E mawaawa riki marawa nakon karawa.
green sea sky
9. E waekoa riki te rebwerebwe nakon te b'ati.
fast motorbike bus
10. E m'aiti riki te nii nakon te kaina.
more coconut t. pandanus tree
11. E manena riki te reirei nakon te takaakaro.
useful study play
12. E beebete riki te taetae ni Kiribati nakon te taetae ni Matang.
easy Gilbertese English
13. E mronron riki te booro nakon te ben.
round ball coconut
14. E tamaroa riki te kaa nakon te b'aatika.
pretty car bicycle
15. E tikiraoi riki m'aaneu nakoiu.
pretty my sibling me
16. E kamaiu riki te akawa nakon te takaakaro.
enjoyable fishing play
17. E m'aitoro riki Hawaii nakoni Kiribati.
cold
18. E raababa riki te roba nakon te inaai.
wide k.o. mat coconut mat
19. E nano riki marawa nakon te nama.
deep sea lagoon
20. E roroo riki te been nakon te bentira.
black pen pencil

E. Change the following sentences from equality to inequality:

ex: E titeboo ananaun te bentira ma te been. =
E korakora riki ananaun te bentira nakon te been.

1. E bootau matoatoan te biti ma te atiibu.
hardness knife stone
2. E titeboo rietaatan te nii ma te kaina.
tallness coco. tree pandanus tree
3. E bootau ananaun te wae ma te bai.
length leg arm
4. E titeboo m'aitin au ririki ma ngkoe.
amount years
5. E bootau nanon marawa ma te nama.
depth sea lagoon
6. E titeboo kabaan te biia ma te kaokioki.
bitterness beer toddy liquor
7. E bootau buuburan te kirii ma te katam'a.
size dog cat
8. E titeboo raoiroin ikai ma Kiribati.
goodness here
9. E titeboo beebeten te tioka ma te raiti.
lightness sugar rice
10. E bootau matentenin te Baibara ma te boki n anene.
thickness Bible songbook
11. E titeboo materaoin te ika ma te moa.
cheapness fish chicken
12. E bootau manenan te ika ma te iriko.
usefulness fish meat
13. E titeboo korakoran tamau ma tamam.
strength my father
14. E titeboo tikiraoin tinam ma tinau.
beauty your mother
15. E titeboo ab'akin am auti ma au auti.
size your house
16. E titeboo raababan te kawai ikai ma are i Tarawa.
width road here
17. E titeboo m'aitin te kaa ikai ma are i Amerika.
amount cars here
18. E titeboo marurungin te mm'aane ma te aiine.
health men women
19. E bootau raababan waeu ma waem.
width my leg
20. E titeboo raoirooin au koroboki ma am koroboki.
goodness my writing

VERBS - GENERAL

Lesson 31

Kiribati verbs cover a somewhat broader range than English verbs; they may appear to be adjectives or adverbs, indicate questions, or seem to be absent altogether from the sentence.

1. Tense

There is no distinct form for the different tenses, which are either indicated by auxiliary particles, or, more often, indicated solely by context. (see lesson 37 on tense).

2. Agreement

There is no agreement between a verb and its subject:

I roko.	I came.
E roko.	He came.

There is however agreement between a transitive verb and its object, with the ending of the verb varying according to the nature of the object. This is fully covered in the lesson on object pronouns, in lesson 22.

3. Interrogative, adverbial and adjectival verbs

Kiribati verbs may carry interrogative force, as explained in lesson 9:

Ko nakea?	Where are you going?

They may also appear to be adverbial:

E waekoa.	It is fast.

See lesson 34 on adverbs for a fuller discussion.

Finally, as explained in lesson 29, there is no distinction in function between adjectives and intransitive verbs:

E uraura te booro.	The ball is red.

4. Repeated Action

One case of variation in the form of verbs is when the action is repeated or continues in time:

nako	to go
naanako	to usually go

This subject is treated in lesson 33 on reduplication.

5. Passive

As explained in lesson ____, there is a passive suffix -aki which transforms a verb into its past participle:

E kabooa te raiti.	He bought the rice
E kabooaki te raiti.	The rice was bought.

There are a number of Kiribati verbs however which in meaning are already past participles:

reke	gotten
bua	lost

6. Transitive formation

Many verbs have both a transitive and intransitive form, with the transitive form being constructed by adding ka- to the beginning, and -a to the end of an intransitive verb:

bua	lost
kabuaa	to lose
bokaboka	mud
kabokabokaa	to muddy
uraura	red
kauraurae	to redden
nako	to go
kanakoa	to send

(In addition, there are a number of suffixes which serve to create transitive verbs from other parts of speech.)

7. 'To be'

There is no 'to be' verb in Kiribati. In many cases, 'be' can be considered as part of the meaning of an intransitive verb or adjective:

E uraura te booro.	The ball (is) red.

'Equational' sentences, treated in lesson 3, have no surface verb, but connect two noun phrases with an "invisible" 'to be':

Te tia mm'akuri teuaarei.
A workman that man.

That man (is) a workman.

There is however a verb meaning 'to be located', which usually translates as 'to be' in English : mena.

E mena iaon te taibora to booro.
It is (located) on the table the ball.

The ball is on the table

E mena inanon te auti te tia mm'akuri.
The workmen is (located) in the house.

8. 'To have'

Neither is there a verb in Kiribati for 'to have'. The sense can be gotten by either using the possessive pronoun (lesson 23):

Iai am boki?	Do you have a book? (Is there your book?)

or a construction consisting of iai + irou-:

Iai te boki iroum?	Do you have a book? (Is there a book by you?)

In this latter case, irou- takes the appropriate possessive pronoun suffix (lesson 24).

There is some difference in the meaning of these two ways of expressing 'to have'. In the first case, the book is assumed to belong to the person being asked - your book. In the second no such inference is made - a book.

A. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. The ball is red.

2. The tree is tall.

3. The book is on the table.

4. That woman is pretty.

5. My sister is in the house.

6. That man is a doctor.

7. The cup is on the bed.

8. My house is in the village.

9. The knife is very sharp.

10. The brown dog is angry.

B. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. Do you have any money?

2. I have four dogs.

3. That man has two books.

4. Have you a knife?

5. Does he have his box?

6. They have no children.

7. Have we any rice?

8. Do you have a cat?

9. They have $3 each.

10. I have no paper.

C. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. The big book is in the house.
2. Those people have three children.
3. That woman is a nurse.
4. The boys have no money.
5. That house is very big.
6. Does the doctor have a telephone?
7. My knife is under the coconut tree.
8. His daughter is in the hospital.
9. They have a care in America.
10. Have you any potatoes?

AGENT MARKING

Lesson 32

Gilbertese uses a small form before verbs to indicate the agent or doer of the action, similar to the English suffix -er. In Kiribati there is both a singular and plural form (as in English: -ers), but these are not used when the agent is inanimate (unlike English: bulldozer, spot remover):

singular	plural
tia	taan(i)

examples:

te tia anene	a singer
te tia mm'akuri	a worker
te tia nanokaawaki	a sad person
taan anene	singers
taani mm'akuri	workers
taan nanokaawaki	sad people

Note the absence of te in the plural, as expected, and the insertion of i after taan when the following word starts with m, ng, b, k, w as explained in lesson 1.

These forms can also be used with some of the auxiliaries before the verbs:

te tia am'arake	an eater
te tia kan am'arake	someone wanting to eat
te tia aki am'arake	someone not eating
taan am'arake	eaters
taani kan am'arake	those wanting to eat
taan aki am'arake	those not eating

AGENT MARKING EXERCISES

LESSON 32

A. Change the following sentences by translating the English words using tia or taan:

1. E na roko ningaabong the worker. (work = mm'akuri)
   will come tomorrow
2. E nako the toddy cutter. (cut toddy = koro karewe)
   went
3. E a kua the player. (play = takaakaro)
   tired
4. E biribiri the runner. (run = biri)
   run
5. E anene the singer.
   sing
6. Iai konan the fisherman. (fish = akawa)
   his catch
7. E nakon te um'antabu the preacher. (preach = kab'arab'ara)
   church
8. A m'aiti ana boki the writer. (write books = koroi booki)
   many books
9. E taetae n te m'aneaba the speaker.
   speaks
10. E maeka n te nukamotu the farmer. (cultivate = ribana)
    lives countryside
11. A katei auti the workers.
    build houses
12. A oki n tebo the divers.
    return diving
13. A kabaneaki uoman the drivers. (drive = kabutikaa)
    finished two
14. A nako buakonikai the wood-cutters. (cut wood = korokai)
    go to the forest
15. A uoti buua ni ben the coconut collectors. (collect c = booti been)
    carry bags of coconuts
16. A rerebaua i buakonikai the hunters. (hunt = kaeman)
    roam around in the forest
17. A b'atata aia kariki the bakers (bake bread = kariki)
    burn bread
18. A motirawa the store keepers n te bong aei. (sell = boob'ai)
    rest today
19. A kena te rua ni b'ab'ai the diggers. (dig = keniken)
    dig b'ab'ai pit
20. A uniki nii the planters. (plant = ununiki)
    plant coconut trees

B. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. There are three workers in the house.

2. The fisherman has come home.

3. The travelers lost their way.

4. The flyer could see many places from above.

5. He met the fireman at the police station.

6. The wrongdoer was fined $25.

7. The teachers are teaching in the schools.

8. The typist types many letters today.

9. They all follow their leader.

10. The singers are singing in the m'aneaba.

REDUPLICATION

Lesson 33

While Kiribati verbs are generally invariable in form, except for the transitive object endings, there is one common way of varying the forms: repeating a section of the word indicates a continued or repeated action.

1. usually

To indicate that an action usually occurs, the first segment of the word is repeated, generally with the vowel lengthened:

tang	to cry
taatang	to usually cry
nako	to go
naanako	to usually go
roko	to come
rooroko	to usually come

2. continuity

When continuity of action is to be indicated, a larger section of the word is duplicated, either the first two syllables, or the first syllable plus the following consonant:

tang	to cry
tangitang	to continually cry
nako	to go
nakonako	to walk
koro	to cut
korokoro	to continually cut

Under certain circumstances the two forms may be combined, as for example:

kiba	to jump
kibakiba	to continually jump
kiikiba	to usually jump
kikibakiba	to continue to usually jump = to jump on regular occasions

3. adjectives

Adjectives may also be formed through the process of reduplication, often with the meaning 'abounding in...':

aoraki	sick
aoaoraki	sickly
ika	fish
ikaika	fishy
nei	a pond
neinei	swampy

Sometimes there is some variation in meaning as a result of the reduplication (nako - nakonako = to go, to walk) so you may not always meet with perfect success when attempting to construct forms in the above manners, but a little experimentation and close attention to usage will provide you with a good guide.

When the adjective is short, usually the entire form is duplicated (ikaika, neinei). In some cases just the initial syllable is repeated:

karau	rain
kakarau	rainy
rakai	reef
rarakai	full of reefs

Sometimes however, it is the final part of the word which is duplicated:

maunga	mountain
maungaunga	mountainous
tabuki	hill
tabukibuki	hilly
marua	valley
maruarua	full of valleys

You will have to learn the individual cases. Don't forget the inserted i when the syllable ends in a nasal:

kun	skin
kunikun	skinny

LESSON 33

A. Give the appropriate Kiribati form of the following words to change their meanings to "usually...":

ex:	tang	to cry
	taatang	to usually cry
1.	matuu	to sleep
2.	roko	to come
3.	kana	to eat
4.	nima	to drink
5.	tiku	to stay
6.	kiba	to jump
7.	kare	to throw, to blow
8.	mooi	to drink
9.	mii	to dream
10.	ribaa	to hate
11.	akawa	to fish
12.	beti	to float
13.	tang	to cry
14.	nako	to go
15.	korokarewe	to cut toddy
16.	ribana	to cultivate
17.	moko	to smoke
18.	buaka	to become rough
19.	boo	to ring
20.	biri	to run

B. Give the appropriate Kiribati form of the following words to change their meanings to "continually...":

ex: tang — to cry
tangitang — to continually cry

1.	koro	to cut
2.	kiba	to jump
3.	tiku	to stay
4.	kare	to throw
5.	b'aro	to pour
6.	nako	to go
7.	mate	to stop
8.	ura	to light
9.	biri	to run
10.	b'aka	to fall
11.	kim'a	to sharpen
12.	ewe	to leap
13.	wene	to lie (recline)
14.	tiki	to stiffen
15.	mere	to argue
16.	nebo	to praise
17.	toro	to squat
18.	tata	to stagger
19.	reke	to be gotten
20.	tang	to cry

LESSON 33

C. Use reduplication to form adjectives of the following words:

ex:	aoraki	sickness
	aoaoraki	sickly

1.	ika	fish
2.	nei	pond
3.	tano	soil
4.	bike	sand
5.	ran	water
6.	ang	wind
7.	karau	rain
8.	nang	cloud
9.	baa	leaf
10.	ira	hair
11.	kun	skin
12.	biti	iron
13.	mata	color
14.	maunga	mountain
15.	tabuki	hill
16.	nii	coconut tree
17.	marua	valley
18.	nib'a	hole
19.	nao	wave
20.	rakai	reef

D. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. I usually drink water.

___

2. The wind is continually blowing from the east.

___

3. I stay at home on a rainy day.

___

4. My motorbike is continually stopping.

___

5. Her mouth is watery.

___

6. A sickly boy spent most of his time at home.

___

7. Kiribati is a sandy place.

___

8. I usually hate bad boys.

___

9. He usually dreams at night.

___

10. They continually praise God in church.

___

TIME EXPRESSIONS - ADVERBIAL

Lesson 34

Like all languages, Kiribati has a number of ways of setting the time of a given utterance. While most of these are adverbial, there are also auxiliaries (lesson 37) and even some verbs which include the relative time within them.

1. Demonstrative Time Adverbs

This set can be seen as parallel to the demonstrative pronouns (lesson 26), in that they have three degrees of relative "distance":

ngkai	now
ngkanne	then (later)
ngkekei	then (past)

Their position in the sentence is generally last, after the expressed subject, but in practice they are found in various positions, and so their placement is actually variable:

'preferred': E roko te tia mm'akuri ngkekei.
The workman came then.

'variation': E roko ngkekei te tia mm'akuri.

The meaning of these adverbs can be intensified by adding naba (also) to the end:

ngkainaba	immediately, right now, at once
ngkannenaba	at the time mentioned
ngkekeinaba	at that time

Other time adverbs which function similarly:

ngkoa	some time ago
ngkoangkoa	a long time ago
ngkoananoa	yesterday
ningaabong	tomorrow
ngke	formerly
rimoa	formerly
rimwii	later, afterwards
imwiina	afterwards

2. Adverbial Expressions

In addition, an almost infinite number of time expressions may be composed with n. which function as adverbs:

n aki toki	always
n taai nako	always
n te bong koraki	every day
n te bong aei	today
n (taai) tabetai	sometimes
n te tairiki aei	tonight

3. Auxiliaries

The following are example of auxiliaries functioning somewhat like time expressions. These are treated more fully in lesson on tense/ auxiliaries.:

a tib'a (tia n)	just
kaman	long ago
manga	again
kuri	almost
kaan	almost

4. Verbs

Some examples of a few verbs which function adverbially with regard to time:

maan	to be long
waekoa	to do fast
kiriaria	to take long

A. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. I'm doing it now.

____

2. He'll come then.

____

3. They were in Nauru then.

____

4. John is eating now.

____

5. They'll bring their car then.

____

6. She left for the store then.

____

7. I don't know where they are now.

____

8. I'll be busy then.

____

9. He bought his rice then.

____

10. Where is he now?

____

B. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. He always buys his cigarettes at the store.

____

2. She shops every day.

____

3. I'm going to Beru today.

____

4. They left some time ago.

____

5. He'll come here tomorrow.

____

6. We sometimes eat meat.

____

7. They're going to church tonight.

____

8. I saw that movie yesterday.

____

9. I'll go immediately.

____

10. They lived in Britain long ago.

____

C. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. That man came here some time ago.

   ____

2. I can't help you now.

   ____

3. She'll go to the store then.

   ____

4. And they built their house then.

   ____

5. The Father will be here tomorrow.

   ____

6. We formerly worked for that company.

   ____

7. Afterwards he said he couldn't do it.

   ____

8. I sometimes go by bicycle.

   ____

9. He always visits his grandmother.

   ____

10. Those things are very expensive now.

   ____

LOCATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Lesson 35

Locative Adverbs

A set of locative adverbs parallels the set for time and the demonstrative pronouns, in that there are three degrees of relative distance:

ikai	here
ikanne	there (near you)
ikekei	there (far from us)

These adverbs, like all the other adverbs, are usually placed at the end of the sentence:

Akea te boki ikai.
There are no books here.

Iai teniman te aomata ikekei.
There are three people there.

Prepositions

Most often location is indicated by the use of prepositional expressions of the form i-...-n, meaning roughly 'at the...of'. These expressions are followed by nouns. If followed by pronouns they take the possessive suffixes in place of the n:

irarikin	beside
imarenan	between
iaan	below
iaon	on
riaon	over
rinanon	through
inanon	inside
iakuun	behind
ibukin	behind
imatan	in front of
maiaon	beyond
mairoun	from
nanon	into

They are placed directly before the noun they refer to:

E mena iaon te taibora.
It is (located) on the table.

E nakonako rinanon te marenaua.
He walked through the countryside.

A. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. There are no houses here.

____

2. Is my book there?

____

3. I see some smoke there in the trees.

____

4. Is there a doctor here?

____

5. We found many things there.

____

6. Do you see my pencil there by you?

____

7. She came here three times last month.

____

8. My mother went there in December.

____

9. Have you tried the food here?

____

10. I don't think there are any people there now.

____

B. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. His car is beside the house.

2. The dog is in front of the church.

3. He went into his room.

4. The children ran through the village.

5. Her books are under the table over there.

6. Look inside the box!

7. My house is between those two over there.

8. His hat is on the roof of the house.

9. I got the book into my bag.

10. Three birds flew over our house.

C. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. Four men came here yesterday.

2. Look under the bed for your box.

3. She ran through the house.

4. Is there a ship there now?

5. I know I left it there by you yesterday.

6. I put your bag behind the door.

7. They sailed beyond Nikunau in their canoe.

8. Leave the food on the table.

9. Do you sell tobacco here?

10. That's his dog next to the school there.

PREPOSITIONS

Lesson 36

There are only a few basic prepositions in Kiribati and their use is restricted. The basic set is as follows:

i	locative, at
irou	by
mai	from
man	from
n(i)	at, in, with...
nako	to

1. i

This form has the general meaning 'at', and is never used before the article. It is used

a. before proper place names:

i Tarawa	at Tarawa
i Amerika	in America

Bon te kaabenta i Amerika ngaia.
He is a carpenter in America.

b. before cardinal points and other nouns which don't take the article:

i meang	in the north
i taari	in the sea

A tebotebo i taari naakekei.
Those people are swimming in the sea.

c. before parts of the body or of a thing:

i baim	in your hand
ibukin	behind

E mena ibukin te aiine.
It is behind the woman.

d. before aba (land) with the possessive or genitive:

i aban te... in/at the land of

E tiku i abana.
He stayed in his land.

2. irou-

This is only used before animate things, with the meaning 'by'. It must be followed by one of the possessive suffixes:

E tiku iroun te unimm'aane.
He stayed by (with) the old man.

It is also used in combination with iai (there is/are) to mean 'to have':

Iai te boki iroura.
We have a book.

3. mai

This form of the preposition meaning 'from' has the same general distribution as i. It does not occur before the article, but is used before proper place names, cardinal points and nouns not taking the article, body parts or other parts of things, and land (aba) when followed by the possessive or genitive.

I roko mai Bairiki.
I came from Bairiki.

Bon te b'ai mai tinaniku.
It's something from outside (imported).

It is not used before animate nouns, where mairou- replaces it:

Ti karekea te b'ai n tangira mairoun natiira.
We recieved the gift from our child.

Bon te reta mairouna!
It's a letter from him!

4. man

This form of the preposition meaning from fills the gaps left by mai. It occurs before the article, aba when not possessed or taking the genitive, but again not before animates, which take mairou-:

E roko man te titoooa.
He came from the store.

man aaba aika a bati
from many lands

5. n(i)

Like i this form generally indicates location without movement. However its meaning is much broader, and may include means, cause, agent, nature, result, and related meanings. It occurs before the article, derivations of cardinal points, astral bodies, and before verbs. It is not used before animates in these senses, for which irou- is used.

E kabooa te raiti n te titooa.
He bought the rice at the store.

E korea te kariki n te biti.
He cut the bread with a knife.

E nako Nauru n te kaibuke.
He went to Nauru by ship.

E nakon te titooa ni kabooa te raiti.
He went to the store to buy rice.

E tei n te m'aneaba n taetae.
He stood in the m'aneaba to speak.

6. nako/nakon

These two forms of the preposition meaning 'to' have the same general distribution as i and n(i). That is, in the situations where i is used, before proper place names, not before the article, etc, nako is used. Before the article and in other positions where i cannot be used, nakon is called for:

I toka n te b'ati nako Bairiki.
I rode the bus to Bairiki.

I toka n te b'ati nakon te titooa.
I rode the bus to the store.

When used before animate nouns, the possessive suffixes must be used (as described in lesson 24):

nakon te aomata	to the person
nakoiia aomata	to the people
nakoiu	to me

(Note that nako the verb means go to, and is used without the preposition:

E nako Tarawa. He went to Tarawa.)

Translate the following exercise into Kiribati:

A. (i)

1. He lives on Tarawa.

2. The sun rises in the east.

3. He's holding the book in his hand.

4. There are three hotels in the Gilberts.

5. I stayed on that man's land.

6. Are there many roads in America?

7. They are fishing in the sea.

8. The moon is in the sky.

9. He is standing behind the boy.

10. There are many islands in the west.

Translate the following exercise into Kiribati:

B. (irou-)

1. He stayed with us in America.

2. They have two children.

3. It was done by that man.

4. She lives with that family.

5. The letter was written by John.

6. We have a big dog now.

7. The chicken was killed by the boy.

8. Who is living with you?

9. Have you any butter?

10. It was gotten by my father.

Translate the following exercise into Kiribati:

C. (mai/mairoun)

1. He came from America yesterday.

2. Those canoes came from the south Monday.

3. It dropped from my hand.

4. I got it from the boy.

5. She brought it from her brother in Tuvalu.

6. Those people come from here.

7. It was like a dog from Hell.

8. Did you get a letter from David?

9. The storm is coming from the east.

10. Give her the present from her father.

Translate the following exercise into Kiribati:

D. (man)

1. I got it from the village.

2. They came from the land far away.

3. The butter from the store is bad.

4. It fell from the roof.

5. Give her the book from the library.

6. Is that the man from the government?

7. That egg is from his chicken.

8. She came from the house.

9. That nut is from my tree.

10. Any news from the ship?

Translate the following exercise into Kiribati:

E. (n(i))

1. She bought it at the store.

2. He hit the dog with a stick.

3. I took a bus to Bairiki.

4. She wants a pen to write a letter.

5. She stood in the room.

6. I found it on the playing field.

7. He cut his leg with a knife.

8. He went to America by plane.

9. Go to the store to buy some bread!

10. She sat in the chair.

Translate the following exercise into Kiribati:

F. (nako/nakon)

1. Give it to that man!

2. She took the plane to America.

3. I went to the store.

4. I walked to the house.

5. She sent it to her brother.

6. Do you run to school?

7. Take it to your father.

8. I swam to the island.

9. He will write to the president.

10. They went to Beru.

G. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. She has a pencil in her hand.
2. That book was written by me.
3. There are no clouds in the sky.
4. There are three men staying with us.
5. Those planes came from Japan.
6. It dropped from that tree.
7. The children were running from the east.
8. I got it from the teacher.
9. It came from his mother yesterday.
10. They came from the airport by car.
11. He tied it to the door with string.
12. Go to church now!
13. They broke it with a hammer.
14. They gave it to us yesterday.

TENSE / AUXILIARIES

Lesson 37

Tense in Kiribati is not marked by a change in form of the verb, but either by a participle preceding the verb or the context of the sentence or discourse.

1. present/past indeterminate

The absence of any auxiliary particle before the verb may be understood variously as past or present, according to the context. In isolation, however, such a sentence is often interpreted as being past:

E nakon te titooa.	He went to the store.
E nakon te titooa ngkai.	He's going to the store now.
E nakon te titooa ngkoananoa.	He went to the store yesterday.

2. a immediate indeterminate

The auxiliary particle a preceding the verb or other auxiliary carries a sense of immediacy or unfinishedness, and can be used to express past, present or future:

E a roko te kaibuke.	The ship just came.
E a roko te kaibuke ngkai.	The ship arrives now.
E a roko te kaibuke ningaabong.	The ship comes tomorrow.
E a roko te kaibuke ngkoananoa.	The ship came yesterday.

This particle is very common in Kiribati speech, but the actual time referred to is usually indicated by context.

3. tabe n continued action

This auxiliary can be most often translated by using the English 'is ___ing' construction, although the word tabe may be translated as 'busy':

E tabe ni mm'akuri ngkai.	He is (busy) working now.

It can be interpreted as past tense if the context so indicates:

E tabe ni mm'akuri ngkoananoa.
He was (busy) working yesterday.

(A similar particle, kume n, has a slightly more limited use.)

4. nang(i) immediate future

Kiribati is usually more explicit with regard to the future. This form can be most aptly translated as 'about to':

E nangi nako.	He's about to go.
E nang kiitana Betio.	He's about to leave Betio.

5. na general future

This is the general auxiliary for the future:

E na nako.	He will go.
Ti na mm'akuri ningaabong.	We will work tomorrow.

6. a tib'a immediate past

This is used for an action that has 'just' occurred:

E a tib'a nako te kaibuke.	The ship just left.
E a tib'a roko teuaarei.	That man just arrived.

7. a tia n completed past

Tia can be used as a verb in its own right, meaning finished, which is a good approximation of its sense as an auxiliary. Auxiliaries which still retain some verbal status are usually linked to the verb with n, putting the following verb in the 'infinitive' form:

E a tia ni kabooa te raiti.	He bought the rice.
E a tia n roko te meeri.	The mail came.

8. additional auxiliaries

Beyond these basic seven cases, there are additional forms and combinations of these forms which give variations of time and meaning to the verbs, as well as other auxiliaries which have nothing to do with setting the time of the sentence. Some of these are listed below:

a tib'a tia n	just finished
a kaman	already
a kaman tia n	already finished
a manga	again
a kan	almost (and will)
kuri n	almost (but didn't)
konaa n	can
riai n	must
bia	would that
ti	only
kan	want to

In position, these all come after the subject pronoun and before the verb. Any verb appearing in this position before the main verb of the sentence must be followed by n(i) as mentioned above. For example:

N na kataia n roko.
I will try to come.

LESSON 37

A. Change the tense in the following sentences from the present/past indefinite to the immediate indefinite form:

ex: E nakon te titooa. = E a nakon te titooa.

1. E nakon te oonaoraki ngke e bong.
   go to hospital last night
2. E roko te kaibuke ngke e ingaabong.
   came ship this morning
3. E kam'aa te am'arake ngkai.
   cook food now
4. E kaburoa te ran ngkoananoa.
   boiled water yesterday
5. E uaatii ana kunnikai ngkai.
   wash clothes now
6. I kanakoa natiu nakon te titooa ngkai.
   send my son store
7. E katinea ana takataka ngkoananoa.
   weight copra yesterday
8. E oki man te m'aiee ngkai.
   return dance now
9. E nako ni mm'akuri n te ingaabong aei.
   go to work this morning
10. E nako te waanikiba ngke e ingaabong.
    airplane this morning
11. Kam rikai ngkoananoa.
    stop to see me yesterday
12. E nako te bao n te ingaabong aei.
    transport this morning
13. Kam uoti amii boki ngkoananoa.
    bring books yesterday
14. E rangi ni kukurei nanou ngkai.
    happy his spirit
15. E okira mweengana n te wiiki ae e nako.
    return to his home last week
16. Ti am'arake im'aain nakora ngkoananoa.
    eat before our going yesterday
17. E baki te teei ngkai.
    hungry child
18. I motirawa man au mm'akuri.
    rest from my work
19. Kam katiai amii mm'akuri.
    finish your work

B. Change the above sentences to the continued action form:

ex: E nakon te titooa. = E tabe n nakon te titooa.

C. Change the following sentences into the immediate future tense:

ex: E nakon te titooa. = E nangi nakon te titooa.

1. E teirake ni mm'akuri n te aoa waniua.
   start work eight o'clock
2. E moana ana motirawa n te wiiki ae e nako.
   start vacation last week
3. E nako Tabiteuea ni mm'akuri ikekei.
   to work there
4. A roko ara kaakoo mai Tarawa.
   come cargo
5. E a bane te tano mai Banaba.
   finished soil
6. A oki taani mm'akuri mai Banaba.
   return workers
7. A bootaki aomata n te m'aneaba.
   gather people
8. Ti bootaki ni kukurei ni kaawan te tua.
   celebrate at the government station
9. Kam nako Tarawa n te kaibuke ae e na roko.
   ship which will come
10. E kainaki te reirei n te bong aei.
    closed school today
11. E nako a akawa ibukin ana utuu.
    fishing for his family
12. E kabooa nako ana rebwerebwe.
    sell his motorbike
13. E kabaaki waana n ona tai ni motirawa.
    build his canoe during vacation
14. A kateaki auti aika a boou.
    build houses new
15. E m'aee nako man ana auti aarei.
    moves from his house
16. E maeka i Betio irouiia ana karo.
    lives with his parents
17. Ko tiku i Hawaii inanon teniua te nam'akaina.
    stay for three months
18. Ko okira Kiribati n te nam'akaina ae Tuurai.
    return to in the month of July
19. E moanaki te kooti n Aokati.
    started course in August
20. A okiri abaia taan tei imwiin aia kaboowi.
    return to their homes representatives after meeting

D. Change the above sentences into the future tense:

ex: E nakon te titooa. = E na nakon te titooa.

E. Change the tense in the following sentences to the immediate past:

ex: E nakon te titooa. = E a tib'a nakon te titooa.

1. E matuu iroura.
sleeps with us
2. E roko mai Amerika.
come from
3. A nako Maiana ngke e ingaabong.
go to this morning
4. E roko te kaibuke mai Biiti.
come ship Fiji
5. E bane ana reirei i Biiti.
finished study
6. I katea au auti irarikin te m'aneaba.
build house next to maneaba
7. E kateaki te um'a n reirei n ara kaawa.
built school our village
8. E okira Kiribati imwiin te tai ae e maan.
return to after a long time
9. E kaukaki te titooa are i Betio.

10. E roro n akawa Taom ngke e ingaabong.

11. E tabekaki nako Abemama n te Kauabong.
transferred to Tuesday
12. E mm'akuri n te aobiti n te wiiki ae e nako.
work office last week
13. Ko roko mai Aotiteria.
come from Australia
14. I kaoka ana boki raou.
return his book my friend
15. Ko roko n au auti n te bong aei.
come my house today
16. E nakon te titooa ni boob'ai.
go to store shopping
17. Kam kaoki bokin te aobiti.
return office
18. E waaki te katei auti i Betio.
started house building at Betio
19. E a tia te meeri are e uruaki.
finished ferry broken
20. E a moana m'anangana te waanikiba nako Tamana.
begun departure airplane to Tamana

F. Change the tense of the above sentences to the completed past:

ex: E nakon te titooa. = E a tia n nakon te titooa.

G. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. He arrived from Tarawa.

2. She's going to work at the school.

3. I just got my letter from my parents.

4. He's going fishing tomorrow.

5. He returned home yesterday.

6. She is (busy) cooking the food.

7. They were (busy) talking yesterday.

8. The plane is about to land at Bonriki.

9. We're about to come to the office.

10. We will take the bus to Bairiki.

11. They will go by bus to Teaoraereke.

12. He fed the pigs.

13. The boys just left for school.

14. He just bought his new car.

CONJUNCTIONS

Lesson 38

1. Joining Noun Phrases

Three conjunctions are used for joining noun phrases (nouns or nouns with accompanying modifiers):

ao	and
ma	and, with
ke	or

For the most part, ao and ma can be used interchangeably when carrying the sense 'and':

Uota mai te aama ao te neera.
Uota mai te aama ma te neera.

Bring me a hammer and nail.

A nakon te titooa Tiaon ao Meere.
A nakon te titooa Tiaon ma Meere.

John and Mary went to the store.

Notice that in the above example with uota mai, the transitive verb takes the ending expected for singular objects, as it is immediately followed by the singular article te.

When a list of two or more items is given, linked by ao, (which occurs more frequently than its counterpart in English 'and', serving somewhat as we would us a comma) the last item is preceded by ao ai ..., meaning in effect, 'and finally...':

A roko Tiaon ao Meere ao ai Tawita.
John, Mary and David came.

ke, 'or', functions like its English counterpart when joining noun phrases:

Anganai te been ke te bentira.
Give me a pen or a pencil.

2. Joining Sentential Structures

a. Joining two verbs or adjectives

Sentences like 'He is tall and handsome' may be thought of as a shortened form for two sentences: "he is tall' + 'He is handsome.' In Kiribati the simplest form of this sentence is exactly like the two sentences joined by ao:

E kakaianau ao e tikiraoi.
He is tall and he is handsome.

Corresponding to the English shorter form however, is a Kiribati one in which the second subject pronoun may be left out, or at least replaced, by n:

E kakaianau ma n tikiraoi.
He is tall and handsome.

In this form only ma is used, for if ma is used with the subject pronoun, it is understood in the sense 'but':

E kakaianau ma e tikiraoi.
He is tall but he is handsome.

This works in basically the same way when two verbs are joined, except that when two verbs occur one after the other, the interpretation of "first ... afterwards" is available:

E biri ao e tang.
He ran and (afterwards) he cried.

When both actions are at the same time, the form replacing the second subject pronoun with n is used (with or without the ma):

E biri (ma) n tang.
He ran and cried.

When joining sentential structures, ma followed by a subject pronoun is generally understood as meaning 'but':

E biri ma e tang.
He ran but he cried.

b. When the second of two sentential structures is the object of the verb

Sentences like 'I think(that) he will go' or 'I saw that you were ready' or 'I hope that he will come' fall into this category. Such subordinate sentences are preceded by b'a 'that':

I taku b'a ko na nako.
I think (that) you will go.

Au kaantaninga b'a ti na kaaitiboo ningaabong.
I hope (that) we'll meet tomorrow.

I ataia b'a ko a tia n roko.
I knew that you had come.

Notice in the last example that the transitive verb ending has the form used when the object is not present in the sentence, equivalent to:

I saw it that you had come.

With the same meaning, it is also possible to use the object pronoun corresponding to the subject of the subordinate sentence in this type of situation:

I ataiko b'a ko a tia n nako.

c. Joining two simple sentences

The same set of conjunctions are used to join simple sentences except that in this case ma means 'but':

I a tia n nakon te titooa ao I a manga oki.
I went to the store and I returned again.

E a tia n nakon te titooa ma e tuai n oki.
He went to the store but he hasn't returned yet.

E na kabooaki te iriko ke N na nako n akawa.
I'll buy some meat or I'll go fishing.

Sentences joined by ao frequently end with naba 'still, also':

I a tib'a roko ao ko a nako naba.
I just arrived and you left (also).

A. Replace the plus sign (+) linking the noun phrases in the following sentences with an appropriate conjunction (ao, ma, ke):

ex: E nako Tiaon + Meere. = E nako Tiaon ao Meere.

1. Anganai am boki + am been.
give me book pen
2. I tangira te ika + te iriko.
want fish meat
3. Anganai naba te biti + te taaba.
give me knife bush knife
4. Katuka naba am boki iaon te taibora + iaana.
put your book on the table under it
5. A oki mm'aane + aiine man te m'aiee.
return men women from the dance
6. E kabooa te tioka + te kariki.
bought sugar bread
7. I konaa ni katanga te kitaa + te ukirere.
can play guitar ukelele
8. I kana te ben + te ika.
eat coconut fish
9. Noora te kiing iaon te kainiwene + ni b'aka iaana.
see key on bed fall under it
10. E wareka te boki + te nutibeeba.
read book newspaper
11. Nakomai ikai + raom akanne.
come here your friend there
12. Ti na oki ngai + ngaia.
return him
13. Ko tangira te been + te bentira?
want pen pencil
14. Ko takaakaro + raom.
play your friend
15. E nakonako Taom + te kamea.
walk dog
16. E airi Teken + ana kamea.
go together dog
17. E a tia n roko te kaibuke + te waa.
come ship canoe
18. E matuu Rakera + raona n te ruu.
sleep his friend in the room
19. I a tia n roko i Abemama + i Beru naba.

20. Katuka ikai am boki + am been.
put here book pen

B. Convert the following pairs of sentences into single sentences by using the appropriate conjunctions:

ex: E kakaaianau. E tikiraoi. =
E kakaaianau ao e tikiraoi.
or: E kakaaianau ma n tikiraoi.

1. E rietaata te auti. E buubura.
tall house big
2. E uareereke. E mronmron.
little round
3. E uraura irana. E mata ni koora.
red his hair color of gold
4. E nenea. E kangkang irikon te ikanibong.
oily tasty flesh of k.o. fish
5. E m'arairai irana. E rorooo.
long her hair black
6. E nimamannei. E aakoi teuarei.
mild mannered kind that man
7. E unuun. E tiritiri te raian.
angry dangerous lion
8. E marikarika. E uareereke rab'atana.
fat little his body
9. E korakora. E marurung teuarei.
strong healthy
10. E marurung. E mm'amm'akuri te aiine arei.
healthy working woman
11. E anaanau. E rietaata te waa arei.
long high canoe
12. E rietaata. E mangaanga arokau te mai.
high branchy my breadfruit tree
13. E beebete. E butim'aaka waan tamau.
light fast canoe of my father
14. E m'arairai. E tabaabaa irananatun tinau.
long bushy hair of head my mother
15. I kabooa te kaa ae maawawa. E raneanea.
buy car green shiny
16. I kukurei iroun te aomata ae nimamannei. E akoi nakoiu.
happy toward the person mild mannered kind to me
17. I mooi n te ran ae e itiaki. E m'aitoro.
drink water drawn cold
18. I kana te bwerena ae e raababa. E matenten.
eat biscuit wide thick
19. E biri. E tangi nakon tinana.
run cries to his mother
20. A kibakiba maan. A tangitangi.
fly bird cries

C. Link the sentences of set B using a different conjunction.

D. Link the sentences which follow with appropriate conjunctions:

ex: I taku + ko na nako. = I taku b'a ko na nako.

1. I a tib'a roko + ko nangi nako naba.
   just come about to go
2. E kataia n tabekia + e aki mwemwe.
   try lift it raised
3. Ko a rikai + raom aanne.
   stop by your friend that
4. Ko matuu ikai + ko matuu ikekei?
   sleep here there
5. Ko kana te ika + ko kana te iriko?
   eat fish meat
6. E roko ikai + e a tia ni manga nako.
   come here again go
7. E a aki nako te kaibuke ngkai + e uruaki.
   leave ship now broken
8. E a nako + e a tangi natina.
   went cried child
9. Karauraua tabekia + tai aki akonna.
   gently lift it don't handle carelessly
10. E a tia n roko te kaibuke + e tuai?
    ship not yet
11. I aki konaa ni koroboki + akea au been.
    can write pen
12. Tai nako + I tangiriko.
    go want you
13. I aki ataia b'a e na iri + e na tiku.
    know he will accompany he will stay
14. Tuangai am b'ai + I a kabooa naba.
    tell me thing buy it
15. Ko tangira te kariki + ko tangira te aoranti?
    want bread orange
16. N nangi nako abau + e a kani bung taai.
    about to go my land it's almost sunset
17. I ataia + ko a tia n nako.
    know you left
18. Au kaantaninga + ko na tiku ikai.
    I hope you will stay here
19. I roko ikai tao uoua + teniua te tai.
    came here perhaps 2 3 times
20. An tekateka raoi + e a bane ara reirei.
    sit properly finished our lesson

E. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. Do you prefer to sail or to swim.

____

2. My brother stays in bed and sleeps.

____

3. The man came home and the woman came home too.

____

4. The sea was rough but the boat did sail.

____

5. I told him that he had to leave.

____

6. She met her husband and all her children too.

____

7. He said he would be at the store or the post office.

____

8. You must bring your books or you'll have to leave.

____

9. I saw that the canoe was about to leave.

____

10. Visit us with your friends on your way from school.

____

CONDITIONAL SENTENCES

Lesson 39

Besides the means of joining two sentences into a single complex sentence illustrated in the preceding lesson on conjunctions, there are a number of additional conjunctions for indicating more complex relationships between the two subordinate sentences.

1. If

When one part of a complex sentence is dependent upon the occurrence or truth of the other, this can be shown through the use of conditional conjunctions:

ngkana	if (future)
ngke	if (non-future)

The more common position for these conjunctions is at the head of the sentence, with the second clause preceded by ao 'and, then':

Ngkana I roko ao ko a konaa ni motirawa.
If I come (then) you can rest.

Ngke e roko ao ti konaa n nako.
If he came (then) we could go.

Note that when ngkana is used the future is indicated, so the future auxiliary is not used. (Not Ngkana N na roko...).

These sentences could also be constructed with the clauses reversed, dropping the ao. While this is somewhat less common, it is used to change the emphasis or focus of the sentence:

Ko konaa ni motirawa ngkana I roko.
You can rest if I come.

Ti konaa n nako ngke e roko.
We could go if he came.

Actually, these conjunctions are somewhat ambiguous, and unless the meaning were clarified by context, they could be interpreted as meaning 'since,' or 'when'. In situations of ambiguity, the conditional or doubtful status of the sentence can be strengthened by modifying the conjunctions:

ngkana (tao) (arona b'a)	if (future)
ngke (tao) (arona b'a)	if (non-future)

The bracketed notation above stands for four possible forms, with the implied uncertainty increasing with the length of the form chosen:

ngkana
ngkana tao
ngkana arona b'a
ngkana tao arona b'a

2. Since, When

As mentioned above, when the sense of the conjunction is 'since', or 'when', the same forms are used, plus one for the present:

ngkae	since, when, now that
ngkana	since, when (fut.)
ngke	since, when (past)

Ngkae I mena ikai ao ko konaa n nako.
Since I'm staying here you can leave.

Ngkana ko a tia ni karaoia ao N na anganiko boom.
When you have done it (then) I will give you your pay.

Ngke e mate tibuu ao a nanokaawaki aomata ni kabane.
When my grandfather died all the people were sad.

As with the 'if' forms, the position of the clause may be reversed, dropping the ao.

When the second clause is followed by naba, the meaning is altered somewhat to mean 'even though, nonetheless, although':

Ngkae I mena ikai ao ko riai n tiku naba.
Although I am here you must stay (still).

3. Additional conjunctions

Besides the above-mentioned relationships, Kiribati uses a number of other conjoining forms to indicate different relationships between the two clauses. The same bracketed notation is used to indicate optional forms. In some cases the conjunction before the second clause is ma 'but' as shown:

e aoria ngke/ngkana ... ma   even though, although

E aoria ngke I aki roko ma ko riai ni karaoia.
Even though I don't come you must do it.

e (boni) ngae ngke/ngkana ... ma   even though, although

E boni ngae ngke I a tia n ongo ma I bon aki kakaauaa.
Although I heard it I didn't believe it.

b'a   because, since, as

I aki kukurei iroum b'a ko iowaawaa nakoiu.
I'm not happy with you since you've been naughty to me.

(b'a) bukina (b'a) OR (ngke/ngkai)   because, since, as

I aki kukurei iroum bukina b'a ko iowaawaa nakoiu.
I was unhappy with you because you were naughty to me.

(b'a) kioina (b'a) OR (ngke/ngkai)   because, since, as

Kioina ngkai e a mate tamana e riai n nako ningaabong.
Since his father died he must leave tomorrow.

n te aro ae/ane/are   so that, in such a way that

E anga b'aintangira n te aro are e na tangiraki iai irouia aomata.
He gave them presents so that the people would love him.

b'a e aonga n   so that

I taetae raoi nakoina b'a e aonga n oota raoi nanona iai.
I spoke clearly to him so that he would understand well my meaning.

ni karokoa   until

Ko na tiku ikai ni karokoa I a manga oki.
Stay here until I return.

ti ngkana   only if

Ko riai ni weteai ti ngkana iai kainnanom
You should call me only if there's something you need.

ma ti ngkana unless

N na bon roko ma ti ngkana iai tabeu.
I will come unless I'm busy.

ma ngaia ae/ane/are therefore

I karaoia ma ngaia are I a manga matuu.
I did it and therefore I slept again.

Ma ngaia are ngke I karaoia ao I a manga matuu.
Therefore when I did it I again slept.

Notice that in the above example, when the conjunction precedes the sentence it is necessary to include ngke/ngkai to show the sense 'when'.

(Note on e aoria ngke...: This form can show agreement between the subject pronoun and the object pronoun:

Ko aoriko ngke...
Even though you...

It can be used before possessed verbs without agreement:

Ko aoriko ngke ko nako=
Even though you go

E aoria nakom...
Even though you go...)

A. Combine the following pairs of sentences to form conditional (if) meanings. Use both future and non-future conjunctions:

ex: I roko. Ko konaa ni motirawa.
Ngkana I roko ao ko konaa ni motirawa.

1. I nako. E tia te kootiuei imwiu.
go finished causeway after I leave
2. E oki. Ti na karaoa te am'arake.
return make food
3. E a boo te raoi. Ti riai ni kukurei.
there is peace must be happy
4. E tia te m'aneaba. A na bane n roko aomata.
finished all come the people
5. E nako raraou. I rangi n nanokaawaki.
go my friend very sad
6. E bungi taai. I okira mweengau.
sunset return home
7. E roko te waanikiba. N na nako n nooria.
come plane go see it
8. Ko katuka te teei. Ane e na tang.
leave the child cry
9. E butiai raou te boki. I anganna.
asks for my friend the book give it
10. E m'ai te ika. Ko konaa ni kanna.
cooked fish can eat it
11. Ko tia ni itiran. Ko konaa n nako n takaakaro.
finished draw water can go play
12. A tang ataei. E roko te tia reirei.
cry children come teacher
13. E tia au reta. I a nako naba ni karinna.
finished letter go mail it
14. Ko taua am b'ai. N na aki raoraoniko.
keep things be your friend
15. E oti taai. A kibanako mannikiba.
sunrise fly birds
16. Ko matuu. Ko na mii.
sleep dream
17. E a tia n taetae. E tekateka.
finished talk sit
18. E mate Iesu. E tabwena rokin m'aneaban te Atua.
died Jesus crack walls God
19. Ko kauna te kirii. E na tenaiko.
anger dog bite you
20. E nako n akawa. E oki ma te ika ae e m'aiti.
go fishing return with many fish

B. Combine the following pairs of sentences to mean 'since, when'. Use present, past, and future forms:

ex: I mena ikai. Ko konaa n nako.
Ngkae I mena ikai ao ko konaa nako.

1. I tuangko te baei. Ko riai ni karaoia.
tell you this thing you must do it
2. E oti taai i mainiku. E riai ni bung i maeao.
rise sun in east must set in west
3. Iai irou te maiu. N na mm'akuri ibukin au botanaomata.
I am alive work for people
4. E tuangai tamau b'a N na nako. I riai n nako.
tell me my father go must go
5. Ko tauai ikai. I konaa n tiku teutana te tai.
hold me here can stay a little time
6. E a tia n nako te kaibuke. Ti konaa n okiri mweengara.
gone ship can return our homes
7. E m'aitoro te ran. I konaa ni mooi iai.
cold water can drink
8. A tangira te reirei. A konaa n moana aia reirei.
want study can start study
9. E maoto au bentira. I aki konaa ni koroboki.
broken pencil can't write
10. E maraki atuu. I riai ni motirawa n te bong aei.
hurts my head must rest today
11. E a tia au beku. N na nako ni kakaaki botuu.
finished work go pass time
12. Akea au kaa. N na bon riai n nakonako.
car must walk
13. Akea te ika. Ti na kabooa te iriko.
fish buy meat
14. E a ora taari. Ti konaa n nako n akawa.
low tide can go fishing
15. E a boo te tai. Ti riai n okiri ara beku.
it's time must return work
16. I kan nako Tarawa. N na riai ni kiba n te waanikiba.
want to go must fly plane
17. E kukurei nanou. N na bon riai n taetae teutana.
happy my spirit must talk a little
18. E a tib'a roko raora. Ti konaa ni marooroo ma ngaia.
just come our friend can talk with him
19. E bon tau ara tai. Ti konaa n tiku teutana.
enough time can stay a little
20. E aki roko. E a tia ni katuaeaki.
come punished

C. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. If I can come then you don't have to do it.
2. If he is fast he will win.
3. Since I'm here I'll do it.
4. When you leave give me your book.
5. When he said it everyone laughed
6. Although I'm busy I'll help you.
7. Even though she's pretty I don't like her.
8. I want to leave because I'm sad.
9. He took the book so that he could study.
10. Keep my money until I return.
11. Wake me only if he comes.
12. Don't come unless you're ready.
13. He built it and therefore was happy.
14. I don't know if you know him.

A. Translate the following list into Kiribati:

1. a stone house

____

2. a glass plate

____

3. a metal roof

____

4. a stone wall

____

5. a wooden pencil

____

6. a steel ship

____

7. a brick building

____

8. a paper plate

____

9. a plastic hat

____

10. a wooden bridge

____

B. Written. Translate the following sentences into Kiribati:

1. She put the glass cup on the table.

   ____

2. I saw a metal table in that room.

   ____

3. There's a new brick building in the village.

   ____

4. There was a picture of a girl on the wall.

   ____

5. We saw a steel ship in the harbor.

   ____

6. He told a story of his ancestors.

   ____

7. We crossed a wooden bridge there.

   ____

8. She bought a bottle of vinegar at the store.

   ____

9. Please give me a paper plate.

   ____

10. His new house had a metal roof.

    ____

APPENDIX

Higher Numbers - Old System

For numbers of 1000 and higher, there is an old system of numbers which has for the most part been replaced by one more similar to the Western style.

In the old system, the numeral prefixes are used with the forms for 1000, 10,000 and further multiples of ten on up to a billion, for which there seems to be no older form:

1,000	te ngaa
10,000	te rebu
100,000	te kuri
1,000,000	te ea
10,000,000	te tano
100,000,000	te taki

Some examples:

2,000	uangaa
5,555	nimangaa nimabubua nimabwi ma nimaua
10,666	te rebu onobubua onobwi ma onoua
20,777	uarebu itibubua itibwi ma itiua
200,001	uakuri ao teuana
651,000	onokuri nimarebu tengaa
9,742,000	ruaea itikuri arebu uangaa
52,000,000	nimatano uaea
946,834,000	ruatoki atano onoea wanikuri tenrebu angaa

this last number in the current system would be:

ruabubua abwi ma onoua te mirion wanibubua tenibwi ma aua tengaa

APPENDIX

Numeral Classifiers

abuta	handful
aeka	kind, species, sort, variety
ai	large fish, finger, tooth, timber, elongated
amui (amwi)	bunch (bananas, coconuts,...)
ana	width in mat weaving
ari	spathe
aro	custom, manner
atao	layer, tier, story
ato	coconut thatch
atu	bundle
baa	leaf, sheet of paper, flat object
baba	basket
bariko	heap
batia	parcel (S.)
bong	day
bwe	hit or score
eba	parcel
eria	spoonful
iaki	pile or heap of tens, hundreds
ibu	toddy shell
inaki	row of thatch
ira	hair, thread, strand
iri	piece of pandanus fruit
itera	half, side
itua	string of something
kabatiku	bundle of thatch (S.)
kai	tree, shrub, fishhook, land section
kiba	flight, jump, dive
kora	basket
koraki	group of people
korita	scratch, claw
kuo	liquid measure, small containerful
m'aang	people in groups
m'aanga	branch
maem	small bit, particle
maibi	fragment, piece, bit

m'akoro	piece of cut fish, wood
man	animate (except large fish)
manang	half-coconut, papaya, pumpkin...
m'angko	cup
maoto	fold, pleat
mino	twist
nako	going
ngaa	fathom, span
ngan	shoot
oi	fishing torch, tree trunk
onga	mouthful
oro	strike, hit, blow
ra	width
raka	pace, hand, foot (measure)
rangata	pace
rinan	row
ririki	year
ritoro	bundle of thatch
roro	generation
taewa	slice
tai	time
taanga	couple
tatoa	hit, stroke
tiba	share
tim	drop
toro	share
ua	general
ung	pandanus fruit
uta	scrap, little crumb
waa	transport; canoe, boat, plane...

3.E.

1. E nakonako Tiaon nakon te titooa.
2. E b'aka te nii iaon te auti.
3. E a tia n roko te kaibuke ngkoananoa.
4. E tabe ni mm'akuri ngkai te aiine.
5. E roko man te auti Meeri.
6. E na roko ningaabong te waanikiba.
7. Ti na nako n te bong aei.
8. Ko takaakaro ngkoe irarikin te kawai.
9. Kam a tia n tebotebo i taari.
10. A tekateka inanon te auti aomata.

11.F.

1. Kabooa te kariki!
2. Taiaoka anganai te boki.
3. Tai nako!
4. Tai korea te reta!
5. Ke e kana te ika!
6. Ti a matuu!
7. Weene!
8. Tai nakon te titooa!
9. Taiaoka (anganai) te m'ane.
10. Taetae!
11. Riin n te ruu!
12. Ke e matuu!
13. Anganai!
14. Taiaoka te ran.

12.H.

1. Iai am been?
2. Ko a tia n roko i Makin?
3. Abara aei?
4. Ko noora Tiaon?
5. Iai Bauro ikai?
6. Boni ngaia?
7. E a tia n am'arake?
8. Ko na nako?
9. Am boki aei?
10. Ti na tiku ikai?

14.E.

1. E roko te waa ngkoananoa.
2. A tang taian ataei.
3. A mena taiani boki iaon te taibora.
4. E ngaa te baoki?
5. A tia n roko te naa n aomata.
6. Tai kabooa te raiti!
7. E matuu iaon te taibora te katam'a.
8. E nakonako Meeri inanon te kawai.
9. I aki noora Teng Ngauea.
10. E nako Bairiki Tiaon?
11. Iai taiani b'aatika n te auti?
12. E tangiri taiani miriki Maio?
13. I kabuaa te m'ane.
14. Iai taiani karaki n te boki?
15. A un taiani moa akekei.

15.D.

1. Iai iika ikai.
2. Ti nooriia aomata ikekei.
3. A a nako aiine.
4. Iai taiani boki ikai.
5. Iai taan reirei ikekei.
6. I noori booki.
7. I koroi reeta.
8. Iai taian aiine ikai.
9. Iai tabeman aiine iaon te bike.
10. Bon uee akekei.
11. Ti anenei taian anene.
12. Iai auti inanon te kaawa.
13. Bon taama akekei.
14. A mena iaon te taibora taian am'arake.
15. A matuu taani mm'akuri.
16. I kain taiani mataroa.
17. Bon taian uaa aikai.

16.G.

1. uoua tengaa tebubua onobwi ma itiua.
2. tenibubua nimabwi ma uoua
3. abwi ma waniua
4. ruabubua itibwi ma uoua
5. onobubua wanibwi ma uoua
6. teuana tengaa uabubua ao nimaua
7. teuana tengaa ao itiua
8. uoua tengaa itibwi ma teuana
9. tebubua ruabwi ma nimaua tengaa tenibubua itibwi ma onoua
10. tenibwi ma itiua te mirion itibubua tengaa wanibubua itibwi ma tenuana.
11. tenibubua ruabwi ma onoua
12. itibwi ma nimaua
13. wanibwi ma teniua
14. ruabubua tebwi ma nimaua
15. nimabubua onobwi ma ruaiua
16. tebwi ma aua
17. tebubua tenibwi ma waniua
18. tebwi ma teuana tengaa tenibwi ma onoua
19. teuana te mirion onobubua itibwi ma waniua tengaa ruabubua wanibwi ma itiua
20. teniua te mirion onobubua nimabwi ma aua tengao wanibubua itibwi ma onoua

17.F.

1. Iai uowaa te kaa inanon te kawai.
2. Iraai am been iroum ikanne?
3. E anganiia raona te m'ane n tatabemaniia nako.
4. Iraua booki ake iaon te taibora?
5. I nim akuo te m'angko ni koobe.
6. Iai tabeman aiine n te auti.
7. Iai tabeua been inanon ana baene.
8. E anga te b'ainaoraki te taokita nakoiia onoman aomata aika a aoraki.
9. E katoa kaawa ake e kawari n anga b'aintangira iai.
10. Taiaoka ni kabooi tenim'akoro te kariki ibukiu.

18.E.

1. Anganai iteran am boki.
2. Te kateniman n ataeinimm'aane bon Tiaon.
3. E kaan tebubua te bentira iaon te taibora.
4. A mate uoua katenim'akoroiia kirii.
5. I aki oota n te kanimaua n taeka.
6. I atai angaun tabun anene.
7. A uruaki aua kanimam'akoron m'angko.
8. E mawaawa te kateningaun ma uawaa ni waa.
9. E kaan teningaun ma itiman aomata aika a roko mai Banaba.
10. I noora iteran te aomata.

20.D.

1. N na nakon te titooa.
2. E kabooa te raiti.
3. A roko ngkoananoa.
4. E b'aka iaon te auti.
5. E kana teutana te kariki.
6. Ti nakonako nakon te titooa.
7. N na nooriko ningaabong.
8. Ko nima te ii.
9. I tabe ni korea te reta.
10. A tekateka n te m'aneaba.

21.D.

1. A kabooi taian raiti ngaiia.
2. Ti noora te kaibuke ngaira.
3. E roko n te reirei ngaia.
4. I kana te ika ma te ben ngai.
5. Ko karekei tabeua iika ngkoe.
6. E kam'aa te am'arake ngaia.
7. A takaakaro n te marae ngaiia.
8. Ti biri man te reirei ngaira.
9. E nakonako nakon te titooa ngaia.
10. N na nako Nikunau ngai.

23.D.

1. Ti nakon ara auti.
2. E anganna am boki.
3. E rangi n ab'aab'aki amii aakoi.
4. I noora ana kaa inanon te kawai.
5. E ngaa aia auti?
6. I kabuaa au biti.
7. A tikiraoi b'aiia.
8. A mena ara boki iaon te taibora.
9. E matuu ana kirii.
10. E uruaki aia kaa.

24.C.

1. E ikuaki baiu.
2. E nako tinana nako Maiana.
3. E mena te boki irarikina.
4. Ti ongo tangiia ataei.
5. Akea te b'ai iaau.
6. E uraura waaia.
7. Ti kang karara n ana auti.
8. A nakonako i akuura.
9. A mawaawa mataia.
10. Iai naango iaon kanaia naakanne.

25.C.

1. E uruaki kaan te tautaeka.
2. A tikiraoi maungan Hawaii.
3. Ti nakon uaabun Betio.
4. Ko aki konaa n noori taubukin auti.
5. E kabuaa bokin te reirei te teeinimm'aane.
6. Taiaoka, anganai te kiraati ni biia.
7. E mena te m'angkoni koobe iaon te taibora.
8. Ti ongora ni b'anaan Tarawa.
9. E roko kaibuken te Korone ngkoananoa.
10. E uraura ao e mawaawa waan te tia akawa.

26.D.

1. I kabooa te boki aei.
2. E utoi booki aikai nakon te reirei.
3. Ti kawara te auti aanne.
4. E maeka n te auti aarei.
5. I aki tangiriia ataeinimm'aane akanne.
6. I ribaiia aiine akekei.
7. E maeka n te auti aei.
8. I ataa te teeinimm'aane aanne.
9. I taetae nakon te mm'aane aarei.
10. E angai betira aikai tinau.
11. Karenakoi beeba akanne.
12. Tai riing booki akekei.

27.D.

1. E nakon te titooa teuaanne.
2. Anganai baikanne.
3. I aki ataia uaakanne.
4. A roko mai Tarawa naakai.
5. Katikui baikanne iaon te taibora ikekei.
6. Bon taani mm'akuri uaakai.
7. E na kaam'arakea te teei neienne.
8. Antai naakekei?
9. Angan natim tebaei.
10. A na nakea naakekei?

28.E.

1. Antai teuaane e nakonako n te kawai?
2. Aio neie e bua ana boki.
3. I ataa teuaane a kana te ika.
4. E ngaa neiere e biri nako?
5. Ko ataiia naake a tiku?
6. Aei aia kaawa uaake a aoraki.
7. Ana kaa Tiaon are e uraura?
8. I noori uowaa waa aika akea ieia.
9. E mena te waa ae akea bweena iaon te bike.
10. Anne teuaare e babanga n akawa?
11. Tinana neiere e aki konaa ni kuuka.
12. E a roko neiene e rangi ni kau barantiko.

29.D.

1. E nakonako te aiine ae e marika.
2. E mooi te mm'aane ae e taka.
3. E un te kirii ae e uraura.
4. E matuu te katam'a ae e manana.
5. E nako te kaibuke ae e buubura.
6. E b'aro te ran ae e m'aitoro.
7. E b'aka te nii ae e rietaata.
8. E b'aro te nao ae e buubura.
9. E tangira te moimoto ae e uraura.
10. E anganai te am'arake ae e bati.

31.C.

1. E mena n te auti te boki ae e buubura.
2. Iai teniman natiia naakekei.
3. Bon te neeti neierei.
4. Akea aia m'ane ataeinnimm'aane.
5. E rangi ni buubura te auti aarei.
6. Iai ana tareboon te taokita?
7. E mena iaan te nii au biti.
8. E mena n te oonaoraki natina te aiine.
9. Iai te kaa irouiia i Amerika.
10. Iai am buteeta tabeua?

32.B.

1. Iai teniman taani mm'akuri n te auti.
2. E a tia n okira mweengana te tia akawa.
3. E bua kawaiia taani m'ananga.
4. E konaa n noori taabo aika a m'aiti mai ieta te tia kiba.
5. E boo ma te tia akawa n te aobiti ni bureitiman.
6. E katuaaeaki te tia bure n $25.
7. A reirei taan reirei n taian reirei.
8. E taibin reeta aika a m'aiti te tia taibi.
9. A bane n ira aia tia kairiri.
10. A anene taan anene n te m'aneaba.

33.D.

1. I niinima te ran.
2. E karekare te ang mai mainiku.
3. I tiitiku i mweengau n te bong ae e kakarau.
4. E tokitoki au rebwerebwe.
5. E ranran wiina.
6. E kabanea angiin ana tai i mweengana te teeinimm'aane ae e aoaoraki.
7. E tanotano aoni Kiribati.
8. I riiribaiia ataeinimm'aane aika a buaakaka.
9. E miimii n te tairiki.
10. A neboneboa te Atua n te um'antabu.

34.C.

2. E roko ngkoa teuarei ikai.
2. I aki konaa ni buokiko ngkai.
3. E na nakon te titooa ngkanne.
4. Ao a katea ngkanne aia auti.
5. E na mena ikai te taokita ningaabong.
6. Ti mm'akuri ibukin te kambana aanne rimoa.
7. E taku imwiina b'a e aki konaa ni karaoia.
8. I b'aatika n tabetai.
9. E kaakawara tibuna te unnaiine n taai nako.
10. A rangi ni boobuaka b'aai akanne ngkai.

35.C.

1. A roko teniman mm'aane ikai ngkoananoa.
2. Kakaaea am boki iaan te kainiwene.
3. E biri rinanon te auti.
4. Iai te kaibuke ngkai ikekei?
5. I ataia b'a I katikua iroum ikekei ngkoananoa.
6. I katuka am baeki iakuun te mataroa.
7. A borau maikoan Nikunau iaon waaia.
8. Katuka te am'arake iaon te taibora.
9. Ko kaboonakoa te baakee ikai?
10. Aarei ana kirii are irarikin te reirei aarei.

36.G.

1. Iai te bentira inanoni baina.
2. E koreaki te boki arei irou.
3. Akea naang i karawa.
4. Iai teniman mm'aane n tiku iroura.
5. A roko waanikiba akekei mai Tiabaan.
6. E b'aka man te kai arei.
7. A biri ataei mai mainiku.
8. I karekea mairoun te tia reirei.
9. E roko mairoun tinana ngkoananoa.
10. A roko man te marae ni waanikiba n te kaa.
11. E kabaea n te kora nakon te mataroa.
12. Nakon te taromauri ngkai!
13. A urua n te aama.
14. A anganiira ngkoananoa.

37.G.

1. E roko mai Tarawa.
2. E nako ni mm'akuri n te reirei.
3. I a tib'a karekea au reta mairouiia tamau ma tinau
4. E na nako n akawa ni ingaabong.
5. E okira mweengana ngkoananoa.
6. E tabe ni kam'aa te am'arake.
7. A tabe ni kakarabau ngkoananoa.
8. E nangi tiku te waanikiba i Bonriki.
9. Ti nangi roko n te aobiti.
10. Ti na toka n te b'ati nako Bairiki.
11. A na nako Teaoraereke n te b'ati.
12. E kaam'arakeia beeki.
13. A tib'a nako ataeinimm'aane nakon te reirei.
14. E a tib'a kabooa ana kaa ae e boou.

38.E.

1. Ko kani ieie ke ni uaua?
1. E tiku tariu n ana kainiwene ao e matuu.
3. E okira mweengana te mm'aane ao e okira naba mweengana te aiine.
4. E buaka taari ma e boni borau naba te boti.
5. E tuangga b'a e a tia n nako.
6. E kaaitiboo ma buuna ao natina naba.
7. E taku b'a e na mena n te titooa ke n te aobiti n reta.
8. Kam na uoti mai amii boki ma ngkana kam aki ao kam riai n nako.
9. I ataia b'a e nangi nako te waa.
10. Rikai ma raom iaon kawaimii man te reirei.

39.C.

1. Ngkana I konaa n roko ao ko na bon aki karaoia.
2. Ngkana e birim'aaka ao e na moanna.
3. Ngkae I mena ikai ao N na karaoia.
4. Ngkana ko nako ao anganai am boki.
5. Ngke e taekinna ao a ngare ni kabane.
6. E boni ngae ngkana I tabetabe ma N na buokiko.
7. E aoria ngkana e tikiraoi ma I bon aki tangiria.
8. I kani motirawa ibukina b'a I nanokaawaki.
9. E anaa te boki n te aro are e konaa ni kekeiaki.
10. Kaawakina au m'ane ni karokoa I oki.
11. Kautai ti ngkana e roko.
12. Tai nakomai ma ti ngkana ko a tauraoi.
13. E kateia ma ngaia are e kukurei.
14. I aki ataia ngkana ko ataia.

40.B.

1. E katuka te m'angko te kiraati taon te taibora.
2. I noora te taibora ae te biti n te ruu arei.
3. Iai te auti te buriki ae e boou n te kaawa.
4. Iai taamnein te ataeinnaiine iaon te oo.
5. Ti noora te kaibuke (te biti) tiire n te nne n rooroo.
6. E karakina rongorongoia ana bakatibu.
7. Ti riaon te buriiti te kai ikekei.
8. E kabooa te b'aatoro ni beneka n te titooa.
9. Taiaoka angai te raurau te beeba.
10. Iai raun ana auti ae e boou te rau te kaab'a.

INDEX TO GRAMMAR

_a_ - tense 239
action, continued - tense 239
action, repeated 204
adjectives: 189
  comparison 195
  joining with conjunctions 246
  reduplication 212
  summary 197
  verbs, adjectival 203
adverbs:
  expressions 219
  locative 223
  time demonstrative 218
  time expressions 218
  time, position in intransitive sentence 20
  time, position in transitive sentence 25
  verbs, adverbial 203
aera - question verbs 53
agent marking 209
agreement, verbs 203
aiine - gender 86

INDEX TO GRAMMAR

aikoa - negative 73
akea - negative 76
aki - negative 73-4
an - imperative 62
antai - interrogative 36
ante - interrogative 37
antena - interrogative 37
ao - conjunction 246
apposition 183
arithmetic 122
article 87
article, person 89
a tia n - transitive 240
a tib'a - transitive 240
auxiliary, adverbial 219
auxiliary/tense 239

'be, to' 205
bukin teraa - interrogative 48
Butaritari/Makin Dialect 15,37,90
butiiko - imperative 68

cardinal numbers 103
classifiers, numeral 110, app

comparative - adjective 195
comparison of adjectives 195
conditional sentences 253
conjunctions 246
consonants 6
continued action - transitive 239
continuity - reduplication 212

demonstrative pronouns: 97, 171
  neuter 177
  person 176
  person + relative pronouns 183
  time adverbs 218
dialects 15
distributive - numbers 120

emphatic pronouns 135
equality - adjective 196

fractions 121
future as imperative 66
future, general - transitive 240
future, immediate - transitive 240

INDEX TO GRAMMAR

- gender 86
- general future - transitive 240
- genitive *n* 167

- 'have, to' 205
- how many 42,107

- *i* - preposition 228
- if - conjunction 253
- *iia* - interrogative 47
- immediate future - transitive 240
- immediate indeterminate - transitive 239
- imperatives: 61
  - negative 61
  - verbs 68
- inalienable nouns 160
- independent possessive pronouns 167
- independent subject pronouns 135
- intensification of adverbs 195
- interrogatives: 30
  - verbs 51,203
- intransitive sentence order 18
- *iraanna* - question verb 55
- *iraana* - question verb 56

iraman - interrogative 110
iraua - interrogative 42
irou- - preposition 229

kangaa - question verb 55
ke - conjunction 246
ke - imperative 67

locative adverbs 223
locative expressions 223

ma - conjunction 246
mai - preposition 229
maiia - interrogative 47
man - preposition 230
-man - classifier 110
mathematics 122
mm'aane - gender 86

n - preposition 230
n - genitive 167
na - transitive 240
na - imperative 66
na aki - imperative 67

nakea - question verb 55
nako(n) - preposition 231
nang(i) - transitive 240
nasals: 4
    before other consonants 12
negatives: 73
    imperatives 61
    questions 51
    response to questions 74
neuter demonstratives 177
never 74
ngaa - question verb 53
ngkana - conjunction 253
ngke - conjunction 253
n(i) - preposition 230
nningai - interrogative 47
nominalization 85
Northern dialect 15
not 73
not yet 74
noun phrases, joining with conjunctions 246
nouns: 85
    formed with verbs 162
    inalienable 160

- numbers: 97,103
  - classifiers 110
  - classifier list app
  - higher, old system app
  - ordinal 119
  - position 111

- objects: 98
  - pronoun 140
- ordinal numbers 119

- passive 204
- past tense 240
- person articles 89
- person demonstratives: 176
  - +relative pronouns 183
- plurality 86
- pluralization 96
- possession 85,155,160
- prepositions: 228
  - locative 223
- prepositional phrase - position in intransitive sentence 19
  - - position in transitive sentence 25
- present/past indeterminate - transitive 239

INDEX TO GRAMMAR

- pronouns:
  - demonstrative 97,171
  - emphatic/independent 135
  - possessive, independent 155
  - possessive, suffixed 160
  - relative 97,182
  - relative + person demonstratives 183

- quantity words 98
- questions:
  - negative 31
  - negative repsonse to 74
  - tag 31
  - verbs 53
  - yes/no 30

- raa - interrogative 41
- reduplication 212
- reflexive 146
- relative pronouns: 97,182
  - adjective clauses 190
  - + person demonstratives 183
- repeated action 204
- rikea - question verb 55

sentences, conditional 253
sentence order, intransitive 18
sentence order, transitive 25
sentential structures, joining with conjunctions 247
since - conjunction 254
sound system 1
Southern dialect 15
spelling 1
Standard dialect 15
subject pronouns 98,130
subject 98,130
summary chart, pronouns 126-7
suffixed possessive pronouns 160
superlative of adjectives 195

taan - agent 98,209
tabe - number 112
tabe n - transitive 239
tag questions 31
taian - article 88,96
taiaoka - imperative 68
tatabe- - number 112
te - article 87,96
te naa n - article 89

- tense 203
- tense/auxiliary 239
- teraa - interrogative 41
- teuana - number 111
- tia - agent 209
- (a) tia n - transitive 240
- (a) tib'a - transitive 240
- tiaki - negative 32,75
- time expressions:
  - adverbial 218
  - demonstrative 218
- 'to be' 205
- 'to have' 205
- transitive (verb) formation 204
- transitive sentence order 25
- transitive verb endings 140
- tuai (men) - negative 74

- -ua - classifier 103
- uara - question verb 54
- usually - reduplication 212

- verbs:
  - adverbial 219

    agreement 203
    endings, transitive 140
    general 203
    imperative 68
    interrrogative, adverbial & adjectival 51,203
    joining with conjunctions 247
    repeated action 204
    tense 203
vowels: 1
    combinations 11
    length in imperatives 62
    length in plurals 96

what 41
when - interrogative 47
when - conjunction 254
whence 47
where 47
which 41
who 36
whose 37
WH questions 36
why 48
writing 1

years - number 107

yes/no questions 30